

Battle lines drawn for energy war in US

President Carter last night proposed heavy tax penalties on large cars and other vehicles that make inefficient use of petrol. He also asked Congress for standby authority to increase petrol taxes by as much as 50 cents (29p) a gallon as part of a far-reaching energy conserving programme.

Heavy taxes on big, inefficient cars

Washington, April 20.—President Carter tonight asked Congress for standby authority to increase petrol taxes in stages by as much as 50 cents (29p) a gallon eventually as part of a stringent programme to conserve energy.

He said he wanted power to raise the present tax of four cents a gallon by increments of five cents beginning on January 15, 1979, if consumption exceeded targets to be set.

The President, who has warned Americans to stop wasting fuel, said the national catastrophe, also proposed a tax penalty, starting at \$2,488 (£1,460) by 1985 on large, inefficient cars and light lorries.

The President's programme, presented personally to a joint session of Congress, would return the increased petrol taxes as income tax rebates which would go mostly to low income families.

Other proposals included:

- Raising the price of new domestic natural gas in interstate commerce.
- Removal of a 10 per cent excise tax on city buses to encourage public transport.
- Tax credits for Americans who insulate their homes. The credit proposed was 25 per cent of the first \$800 spent and 15 per cent of the next \$1,400.
- Tax credits for the installation of solar energy equipment as well as a programme costing up to \$100m over the next three years for its installation in Government buildings.
- Mandatory standards for home appliances to make them more efficient so that they use less energy.
- The abolition of discounts for large users of electricity together with lower off-peak domestic rates under certain circumstances.
- Submission of the new programme to Congress opened when White House officials called the President's toughest political battle of his four-year term.

Already, advance reports of the programme have drawn criticism that the President's measures are too drastic and that his proposal for higher petrol taxes faces probable defeat in Congress.

The President, who recently stopped American production of plutonium as a fuel for nuclear power reactors, announced that he was reopening the order books for uranium enrichment services overseas.



Mr Benn: determined

Showdown threat as minister demands construction of power station Electricity head defies order from Mr Benn

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

A power struggle has begun with a police but firm exchange of letters between a determined Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, and a defiant Sir Arthur Hawkins, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, over a Cabinet decision to bring forward an order to build the £600m Drax B coal-fired power station.

Sir Arthur has apparently refused a direct ministerial request to place contracts for the Yorkshire plant without any compensation to electricity consumers, who will have to foot the extra bills consequent upon premature construction of the Drax station.

Yesterday it was learned that Mr Benn had written to Sir Arthur to state that he was no doubt that the power station must be ordered at the earliest possible moment, and he would be grateful for immediate confirmation that the CEBG was ready without compensation, to place the necessary orders for equipment as soon as possible.

To this, Sir Arthur, a noted fighter in state industry circles against government arm-twisting of nationalized industry

chiefs, has replied that he is not aware of any argument which could be seen to invalidate the stand the CEBG has taken.

That stand, he writes, has considerable support to protect the consumer from shouldering the financial burden consequent on ordering any major power station ahead of need.

The stage now seems set for an intriguing battle of wills and a test of the Government's ability to require the CEBG to build the second stage of the Drax station, which is said to be needed to exploit the new Selby coalfield as well as help the hard-pressed supplier of generation equipment, whose problems have been reviewed for the Cabinet by the Central Policy Review Staff.

Sir Arthur and his board are under a statutory duty to develop and maintain an efficient, coordinated and economic system of bulk electricity supply in England and Wales. The CEBG has legal opinions to the effect that Mr Benn cannot direct the board to do anything contrary to that duty.

It is the board's view that if



Sir Arthur Hawkins: defiant

Wales may be excluded from main proposals for devolution

By David Leigh
Political Staff

The Government is considering important initiatives aimed at fulfilling its promise to the Liberals, and to the Scots, that they shall have devolution. The most significant proposal, on which the Cabinet will decide shortly, is the removal of Wales from the original plans.

There is a wider implication, as well, in the strategy that is emerging. Were the present Bill to be scrapped and a new one to be introduced at the beginning of the next parliamentary session, continued Liberal cooperation would be needed to get the measure through.

That may mean some extension of the controversial compact with the Liberals, which is due to expire in the autumn under the present treaty.

Although ministers are co-ordinating the view that Wales cannot be included in immediate plans, there is bound to be opposition to it in the Cabinet. One of the arguments the Government has repeated time and again is that it promised devolution to Wales and that the promise must be kept. If Wales has to be dealt with in a second, and separate, Bill, the odds are greater that the measure will never become law.

However, the Liberals would like a separate Bill. So would Conservative devolutionists such as Mr Heath, who argued last week for such a course.

As soon as the guillotine

failed, and the prospect of devolution receded, the SNP lost all interest in sustaining the Government. It voted against it on the confidence motion which precipitated the Labour-Liberal pact.

Some senior Ministers are sceptical that Wales will be dropped from the devolution plans. They point out that the Government has won one vote in the House to keep it in and that the commitment is strong.

Nevertheless, the Government has had to retreat on proportional representation, and Mr Foot, Leader of the House, has to produce an agreed package with the Liberals to be presented to the Cabinet.

It is even possible that a compromise will be reached with the Liberals by means of which the legislation will be separated as they wish, but in which Wales will not be relegated to second place. Instead, a method could be found of proceeding with two Bills simultaneously.

Trevor Fishlock writes from Cardiff: Almost everyone in the pro-devolution movement in Wales would be dismayed by a decision to leave Wales out of a new devolution Bill.

Last night, Mr Dafydd Williams, secretary of Plaid Cymru, said: "The idea that Wales should be cut out would be an absolute betrayal by the Labour Party of the people of Wales, who have given them loyal support for so many years."

Scottish TUC rebuffs militant miners

From Paul Routledge
Labour Editor
Rothsay

Government hopes of negotiating a third year of pay restraint rose yesterday when the Scottish TUC voted by a narrow margin not to follow the militant line of the miners.

By 1,017 votes to 967, a majority of 50 delegates rejected the miners' demand to oppose "any income policy having as its aim wage regulation through interference from any sources in free collective bargaining".

The Government's traditional allies, the railwaymen, steelworkers, Post Office, engineering and shop workers, electricians, and building workers rallied to prevent the STUC from going on record against the social contract. But the voting revealed a chasm in trade union opinion over what should come after the present pay curbs.

Ranged behind the miners were civil servants, public employees, local government officers, seamen, printing workers, train drivers and the Transport and General Workers' Union, Mr Jack Jones's union.

After rejecting the miners' militant policy, the delegates emphasized their desire to keep the Government in office by rejecting several proposed mine three wage demands.

The conference rejected by

Only copy of Profumo evidence was destroyed

By Peter Hennessy

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, disclosed last night that the single copy made of the evidence presented to his inquiry on the Profumo affair in 1963 had been destroyed.

"It is only in my head, and I am forcing myself to forget it all now," he told the House of Lords during a debate.

The Profumo affair, which shook the Macmillan government, involved the private life of Sir John Profumo, Secretary of State for War, who resigned after admitting that he had lied to the House of Commons. The intimate relationship of many prominent people was involved, as well as national security.

"There were all sorts of records there, most secret records," Lord Denning said. "All sorts of indiscretions revealed." The evidence to his inquiry had been given in confidence. He had assured witnesses it would not be disclosed.

"Afterwards, only one copy was kept. Lots of people would have liked to have read it. A year or two later, I was asked whether that one copy could be destroyed. He said yes, but he said the respondent had a good case and gave his approval."

Lord Denning, chairman of the Lord Chancellor's advisory council, on public records, described how governments could prevent documents from reaching the Public Record Office for public scrutiny. He said that the papers, he felt, "overlook them, or mis- even destroy them, a record office can do nothing about it."

He supported Lord Teviot, the sponsor of the debate and a fellow member of the advisory council, in his call for all nationalized industries and fringe government bodies to be brought within the scope of the public records Acts.

Lord Teviot called for the foundation of a government archives service.

Winding up the debate, Lord Elystan-Jones, Lord Chancellor, said the Profumo episode recounted by Lord Denning "must be regarded as an exceptional event."

He rejected requests for an inquiry into public records on the ground that any findings would involve additional public spending.

Sword find brings boy £10,000

By Huon Mallalieu

An Anglo-Saxon chieftain's sword found by Gary Fridd, aged 10, from Richmond, North Yorkshire, while looking for Tadpoles near the village of Gilling West, fetched £10,000 at Christie's yesterday.

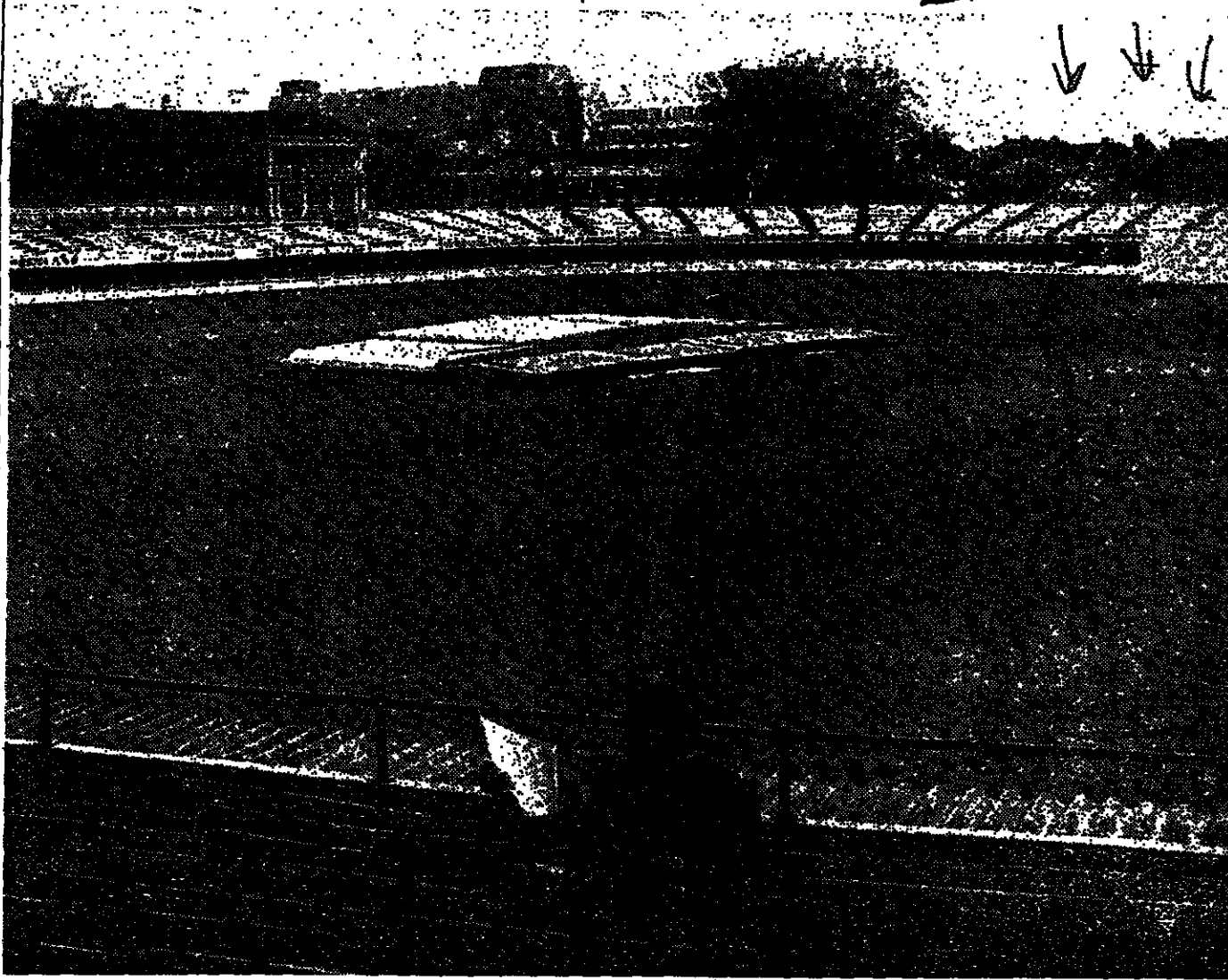
It had been claimed by the trustees of the Gilling and Skelton estate, on whose property it was found. But Lord Bolton and his fellow trustees waived their claim at a treasure trove inquest last October.

The sword, which is decorated with silver and niello, was bought by the Yorkshire County Museum, York, which has had it on view since its discovery. The museum said it was delighted, despite the high price.

Flaw in satellite launch

Cape Canaveral, Florida, April 20.—The European scientific satellite Geos, launched here today, failed to reach its planned altitude because of problems in firing the last stage of the launch rocket, an American Thor-Satellite, owned by the European Space Agency, reached an altitude of 7,500 miles rather than the planned 22,252 miles.

European space officials hoped to manoeuvre the satellite into a better position with its on-board engine, to save the mission from total failure. The cost of today's mission was about £39m.—Agence France Press.



The cricket season officially started yesterday, but not a ball was bowled. Rain here at Lord's and at Oxford stopped the only first class matches. Report, page 14.

Earnings show sharp drop in growth rate

Phase two of the Government's pay policy is expected to keep the rise in wages from employment within the 8.0 per cent range. The Government's official index of earnings, published yesterday, confirms the marked slowdown in the rate of earnings increases since 1976-77. But the success of the pay policy could raise further changes for the current round of pay talks.

Britain's case heard

British lawyers argued at Strasbourg that the Republic of Ireland's attempt to secure condemnation of the security forces in Ulster should not cover a further 238 allegations of ill-treatment between 1971 and 1974. Their arguments before the European Court of Human Rights will be backed up today by Mr Samuel Silkin, the Attorney General.

Butter subsidy

Britain is hoping to get a butter subsidy of 8p or 8½p from the EEC in return for a small devaluation of the green pound. The Government's overriding anxiety is to soften the rise in food prices as the transition to EEC levels continues to be phased in.

Africans rebuff Owen Rhodesia initiative

The Patriotic Front, most militant of the Rhodesian African nationalist groups, has rebuffed proposals for a constitutional conference put forward by Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary. But Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, told Parliament that he thought the British initiative had a chance of success and should not be written off.

Immigrants charge

Civil servants have been accused of imposing tighter restrictions on immigration without ministerial sanction by Mr Alexander Lyon, MP, formerly a Minister of State at the Home Office. He gave evidence to that effect to the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration.

Gas concession ended

Owners of some shops, offices and public houses could face 18 to 25 per cent increases in their gas bills from the beginning of this month because of a decision to abandon a special concessionary commercial heating tariff.

Groucho Marx case

Dr Marley Kart, who attends Groucho Marx, the 86-year-old comedian, has told a court Mr Marx needs the emotional stimulation given by Miss Erin Fleming, his companion, who has asked to be placed in charge of Mr Marx's estate.

Compulsory subjects

The Associated Examining Board has made detailed proposals to the Government for a common-core curriculum in the schools. Basic instruction in English and mathematics would be compulsory for every pupil.

Explosion: The supervisor at a chemical plant was "misled" over a substance that exploded, killing a man

Jerusalem: Israelis celebrate the twenty-ninth anniversary of independence watchful of Arabs and foreign pressure.

Amsterdam: Dutch newspapers allege that a big art gift to a South African university belonged originally to Jews fleeing in wartime

Austria: A four-page Special Report on its tourism and conference centres.

Curfew imposed as 18 die in Karachi riots

From Richard Wigg
Rawalpindi, April 20

A dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed in Karachi this evening after at least 18 people had been killed and more than 150 injured in clashes between demonstrators belonging to the Opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) and those of the ruling People's Party. The city was paralysed by a strike which stopped all public transport and closed shops.

Karachi appeared to be the spearhead of attempts by the Opposition to bring the march of crisis to a head. The Opposition won nine seats there in the recent general election, which it claims was won unfairly by Mr Bhutto's party.

The Pakistan Labour Alliance, a group of trade unions formed under PNA leadership, which called today's strike in Karachi, tonight ordered an indefinite strike. Today's strike was intended to set the scene for Friday's national general strike.

Rawalpindi today had its largest Opposition demonstration to date, which ended with the burning of four shops owned by supporters of the People's Party. Outside Karachi the trains can buy the Opposition campaign that should refuse to pay fares led to crowded trains.

Leader page 17

Letters: On "Electors' Influence on EEC policy, from Mr David Bagnall and Mr Christopher Chataway; on overwork and health, from Dr Elizabeth S. B. Wilson; on Far East trade, from Mr R. S. Milward, and others.

Leading articles: Rhodesia; Scottish TUC Books, page 19

Michael Rancitelli on Gabriel Garcia Marquez's new novel, Piers Brendon on Ruth Dudley Edwards' biography of Patrick Pearse; Peter Timmswood on two new studies of Dylan Thomas; Sheridan Morley on the memoirs of Edward Thomas

Features, pages 16, 20

Michael Shanks says that Europe must take the risk of a 35-hour week in the battle against unemployment; Peter Stratford on how the spirit of the Wild West is moving into the space age; Prudence Glynn on fashion

Obituary, page 18

Mrs St John Hutchinson; Mr Keith Baynes; Brigadier-General L. A. Rayski

Art, page 12

Paddy Kitchin on the Eastern Arts exhibition at Cambridge; William Mann on Faust (Covent Garden); Irving Wardle on Far Harold (Shaw Theatre); John Percival on the Déjourné Ballet; Ned Chaillet on The Bandstand (Soho Poly).

Sport, pages 14-15

Cricketer: West Indies win fifth Test and series against Pakistan without a start in English season; Racing: Dunsouse Etiole to run in 1,000 Guineas

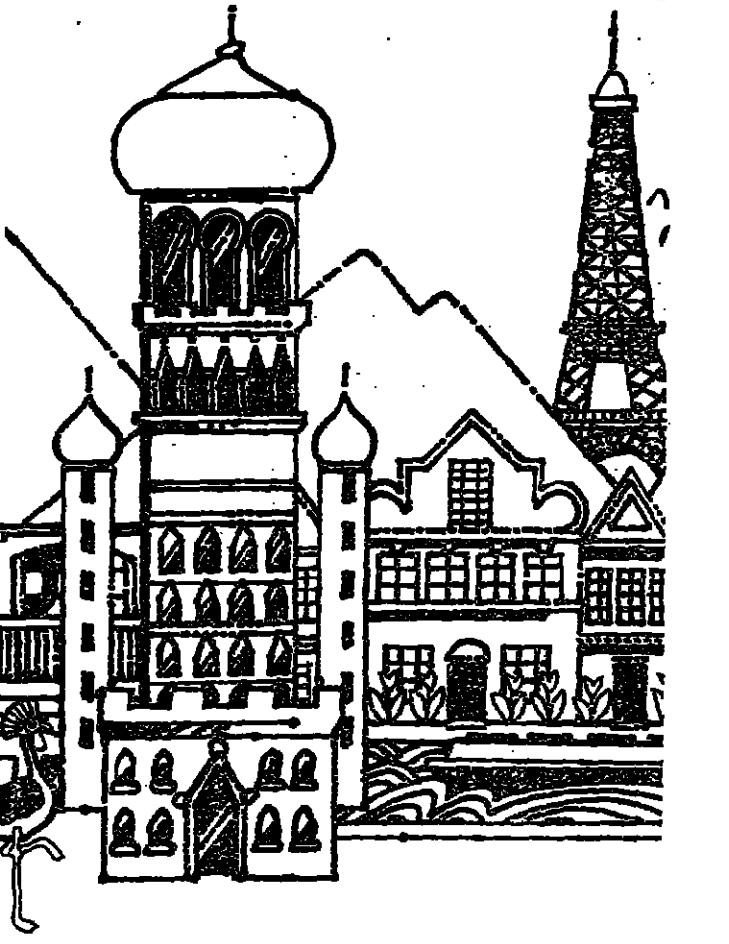
Business News, pages 21-30

Stock markets: Interest rates hopes helped equities and the FT index closed 4.4 up at 414.5

Business features: As debate on pay policy continues Caroline Atkinson examines some of the difficulties in formulating a new phase

Business Diary: The latest line at Boots the Chemist is an elastic century

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HOME NEWS

British QCs attempt to prevent condemnation on 228 further allegations of torture in Ulster

From Christopher Walker
Strasbourg

The British Government yesterday hit back at attempts by the Republic of Ireland to secure wide-ranging European condemnation of the activities of the security forces in Ulster between 1971 and 1974.

The Government's defence was opened by two leading British lawyers who examined the Irish case in detail. Their arguments will be backed up later today by Mr Samuel Silkin, the Attorney General, who is expected to attack the Irish Cabinet's motives in pursuing the long-running case before the European Court of Human Rights.

Much of the British submission was aimed at knocking down the attempts by Mr Declan Costello, the Irish Attorney General, to persuade the court to find against Britain on some important points that have been rejected by the European Commission on Human Rights.

Behind the legal argument lies the fundamental belief of British ministers that the Irish are pressing the case largely for political reasons, and in doing so are generating propaganda valuable to the Provisional IRA.

That conviction has been hardened by the number of Soviet journalists and broadcasters covering the case. By last night almost 200 news men had been accredited to report on the proceedings.

Britain has made it clear that it is not contesting that the use of sensory deprivation techniques against 14 Republican in-

carneys breached the European Convention on Human Rights. But the British are determined to prevent the limited condemnation on that issue and on 11 other cases of brutality from being expanded to cover a further 228 allegations of ill-treatment by soldiers and policemen between 1971 and 1974.

Mr Brian Hutton, QC, countered Irish arguments to the 17 international judges that the extra cases constituted an administrative practice for which the Government was responsible. He maintained that they were unconnected incidents with a background of concerted IRA terrorism.

Having told the court that 435 members of the security forces had been killed in Northern Ireland and a further 5,791 injured, Mr Hutton stated in a key section of his submission: "When there is such a terrorist campaign, it is unfortunately inevitable that on occasions a member of the security forces, acting under the influence of anger or stress, will ill-treat a suspected terrorist when the suspect is arrested or is being transported to an Army post or a police station."

If that happened, although regrettable, it did not follow that there was therefore an administrative practice of ill-treatment for which the Government was responsible under the European convention.

This week's session of the court will provide the British with their last opportunity to defend the actions of soldiers, policemen and government officials against the serious allegations.

For much of the day the British team was forced to defend findings in its favour already made by the European Commission after secret hearings over a three-year period and involving evidence from 119 witnesses. The Irish Government has tried to persuade the court to uphold those findings in its favour, and to overthrow all those in which the commissioners came down on the British side.

On the question of internment after August 9, 1971, the British claimed that the use of extra-judicial procedures was justified by the serious security situation. That derogation from articles 5 and 6 of the convention is permitted in certain specified circumstances, disputed in this instance by the Irish. Later, Mr Anthony Lester, QC, forcefully denied that the use of internment without trial had discriminated against Ulster's Roman Catholic minority in breach of article 14.

Mr Lester maintained that in 1971 there was no comparison between sporadic acts of violence by extreme "loyalists" and the concerted campaign by both wings of the IRA. Internment had been initially restricted to republicans, because at the time the IRA was regarded as the only significant source of terrorism in Northern Ireland.

The European commissioners will make their own submission to the judges today before the final submissions from both sides. A verdict from the court will follow later this year.

Journalists harden line on new technology

From Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

Ilkley

The National Union of Journalists decided yesterday virtually to end cooperation in the next 12 months on introducing new technology into news papers.

The union's conference in Ilkley rejected its executive's advice and voted to set up an eight-member team to present policy recommendations on new technology by November for consideration at next year's conference.

Meanwhile it will not cooperate in introducing new systems which will lead to journalists' absorbing another "input" by journalists into computerized newspaper production.

The decision represents a hardening of the NUJ's attitude towards new technology. In a national ballot a joint management-union document, *Programme for Action*, which sets out the terms for introduction of computer technology, was approved by two votes.

All three main Fleet Street newspaper production unions have in shop-floor votes overwhelmingly rejected the advice of their leadership and opposed the document. NUJ delegates criticized their executive and the union's technology working party yesterday for giving insufficient information.

Delegates felt that although some newspapers are going ahead with plans for new technology, there is not detailed union guidance. There is deep concern that technological evolution in newspapers is seriously affecting traditional demarcation lines.

Talks between the unions and the Newspaper Society, which represents most provincial newspapers in England and Wales, on national guidelines for newspapers seeking to introduce computer-based technology, are expected to resume next month. A discussion paper has been submitted to the society.

The NUJ's official line, based on a decision by last year's conference, has been to maintain a "positive approach" on new technology.

If guidelines for provincial newspapers were agreed nationally, they would still have to justify their detailed schemes locally to the unions. The guidelines insist on a guarantee of no compulsory redundancy.

Elections to the NUJ national executive have caused a move to the left. Mr Aidan White and Mr Roger Fritz, both millants defeated in last year's elections, have been returned. Mr Jacob Eccles, a left-winger, was elected by a large majority and Mr Ted Simpson, a leading moderate and long-standing executive member, was defeated.

Mr Denis MacShane, who has left-wing support, lost his seat but in a poll among delegates was elected vice-president yesterday and received a standing ovation.



Larger butter subsidy sought by Britain

By David Leigh
Political Staff

Britain is hoping to get a butter subsidy of 8p or 8.5p out of the EEC in return for a small devaluation of the so-called green pound, the EEC unit of account, when the meeting of farm ministers resumes in Luxembourg on April 25.

The United Kingdom prevented EEC agreement of farm prices at the beginning of this month, and made itself rather unpopular, by demanding a large butter subsidy. Eventually 7p a lb was offered, against the original demand of Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, for 20p a lb.

The overriding anxiety of the Government is to soften the inexorable rise in food prices as the transition to EEC levels continues to be phased in. The present British negotiating position means that, by the end of the year, butter would cost about 5.5p more, in total.

As things stand it is due to go up by 12p to 13p a lb by the end of this year. That, ministers reason, will enrage the public on two grounds.

First, the notorious sale of surplus butter from the EEC "mountain" meant in effect that it was going at a subsidy of 40p a lb.

While the other EEC countries do not care very much about EEC "mountains" as a result of encouraging domestic producers, ministers argue that Britain is in a special position because it imports so much food. The British public therefore rightly sees the situation as intolerable.

Secondly, the British eat a lot of butter. The Government's figures show that, contrary to popular belief about its being a luxury, the old and poor eat 8oz a week and the £10,000 a year man eats 12oz a week.

As soon as the EEC ministers reach agreement on farm prices, butter goes up by 6p a lb, and then another 6p or 7p at the end of the year. A small devaluation of the green pound would add another 4p a lb to that, but the immediate concern of British ministers is to offset the 6p as

the price of the agreement that ought to have been reached on April 1.

The British ministers are still professing a determination to act firmly in the councils of the EEC, and not let Britain's interests suffer just for the pleasure of appearing good Europeans. But they are also feeling the pressure that is put on them by the other EEC countries.

"People think we can just use the veto," one Westminster source said yesterday. "They do not realize the importance attached to collective agreement in Europe. It is like playing pass the parcel. When the music stops, the one who is left holding the parcel of disagreement is disappointed."

Nevertheless Mr Silkin made a strong speech in the Commons by election campaign earlier this week. As well as taking a predictably strong line on fish, he said the EEC farm price package the British rejected would have meant major food price rises, and new levies and penalties on cooking oil and even tomato ketchup.

The Tories were to blame, he said, for disguising the true price of the EEC from the electorate.

Our Agricultural Correspondent writes: Britain laid the cards out yesterday for accepting a devaluation of the green pound. First, in the words of Mr Silkin, "it must pay for itself".

The minister said after a closed meeting of the Council of Ministers of the European Union: "I would say that devaluation was worth it if it got a benefit to the consumer that outweighed it and did not affect the producers' position."

Secondly, he said, the country wanted a further beef premium. Thirdly, he said, the country wanted to see a further increase in British beef prices above EEC support levels and avoid surplus production.

Thirdly, he wanted "to go a little further along the road to retaining the Milk Marketing Board". The board is considered in Brussels to breach the Treaty of Rome.

24-hour ban on flights to oil rigs

British Airways helicopter pilots at Aberdeen and Shetland last night imposed a 24-hour ban on flights to North Sea oil rigs in support of pilots at Bristow Helicopters who have been on strike for six days in protest at the dismissal of a colleague.

Hopes for a settlement of the strike worsened last night when the company accused the strikers of "taking the law into their own hands" and attempting to wreck Bristow flight operations at Aberdeen.

That response brought a warning from Captain Andrew Spillane, chairman of British Airways Helicopter Pilots' Association, that if the full force of the unions was against Bristow "we are going to take down the oil rigs".

Helicopters, based at Aberdeen, and British Airways between them provide all helicopter services to the rigs.

The strike is over the dismissal of a pilot who refused to take up an appointment within the company in the Far East before his contract at Aberdeen had been completed.

Lawyer prepares will of hunger striker

From Stewart Tendler
Dublin

A solicitor was called to the Curragh military camp yesterday to write the will of David O'Connell, a former chief-of-staff of the Provisional IRA and one of 14 hunger-strikers protesting about conditions in Portlaoine prison. His position grew ominous during the day.

Yesterday was the forty-fifth day of the men's protest, and 14 of the original 20 protesters were still refusing food. The Irish Government said their condition was deteriorating.

For two days O'Connell's relatives have been allowed visits, and yesterday Mrs Deirdre O'Connell saw her husband.

At one point during the visit, Mr O'Connell had seemed confused by the amount of time he had spent in the prison, and tended to ramble, she said.

Mrs O'Connell added that earlier in the strike her husband had collapsed in the prison yard and "in his last week in the prison he told me he didn't want to sleep each night thinking he would not see the morning".

Mr Ruairi O'Bradaigh, president of Provisional Sinn Fein, said that no one in the republican movement could order the hunger-strikers to stop.

The 14 men are being kept in the hospital wing of the military camp. They are being observed by Army doctors, but they have refused to be medically examined.

Car-bomb funeral: Car bombers attacked the funeral of a Provisional IRA man in Belfast, yesterday, killing Mr Sean Campbell, of Park View Street, and seriously injuring six people, including several child dropouts.

The attack happened near the home in the Ardoyne district of Mr Terence McKibben, aged 19, who was shot by an army patrol on Sunday. He had refused to stop when carrying an air rifle.

The Belfast brigade of the Provisional IRA had threatened to bomb the work of "elements working for the British Army". The intention, it said, was to stir a feud in republican areas by creating suspicion between different wings of the IRA, to whip up sectarian violence drawing the IRA from its fight with the Army and to drive people away from republican marches.

Protest against social contract: Between two and three thousand workers from all over Britain marched through the West End of London in heavy rain yesterday to demand an end to incomes policy. Later they lobbied MPs at Westminster. The march arose from a conference called by the British Leyland combined shop stewards' committee earlier this month and was supported by the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions. In Glasgow some factories struck against pay restraint and more than five hundred shop stewards participated in a demonstration.

£20-a-week pit bonus plan

By Tim Jones
Labour Reporter

The National Union of Mineworkers formulated proposals yesterday for productivity bonus payments. If accepted, it might restrain its members from driving a pit more through a new pay policy agreed between the Government and the TUC.

Mr Joseph Gormley, the union's president, has said that his members will reject any further wage restraint, but a productivity deal might influence the attitude of the miners at their conference in July.

Under the proposals, which have to be discussed by the union executive and negotiated with the National Coal Board, coalface workers might appear to receive up to £20 a week in bonus payments.

The union said it will be pressing for the establishment of a standard "task" to be negotiated for each pit, representing a level of production that can be achieved under normal conditions.

A "basic task" would be set at three-quarters of the negotiated standard task, and any production over that basic would qualify the men for bonus payments.

The proposals have angered some left-wing members of the executive who argue that miners should receive a high basic salary with no productivity clauses attached.

Yesterday the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers served effective notice on the Government that it would reject a further year of the wage restraint policy. Motions submitted to its annual conference revealed a powerful swing against continuing the policy.

Promise by Liberals to use power

By Our Political Reporter

The Liberals had got power for the first time since they participated in Churchill's wartime government and they intended to use it. Mr Steel, the party leader, said on television last night.

It is no longer acceptable, he said, that the party should be a "ghost in the machine" as it has been in the past. He said the party should be a "force to be reckoned with" in the national interest.

Our country is under attack now on the economic front. Many people seeing the slide into the disaster of inflation have written to me, and I am sure to Mr Callaghan and Mr Thatcher as well, saying I wish I could bang the heads of you politicians together."

People were tired of the endless slanging matches inside and outside the Commons, he said. For a long time he had argued for an end to the politics of confrontation and a start to the politics of cooperation.

A general election would solve nothing, he said. He said he was certain that the agreement reached with Labour had a fair chance to benefit Britain.

The Liberals were now able to stop the Labour Government, putting any more policies harmful to the country.

Airways dispute to go on after talks break down

By Our Labour Staff

Talks aimed at finding a formula to end the British Airways dispute disintegrated yesterday amid angry accusations from shop stewards leading the unofficial action and demands by them for an independent public inquiry.

The dispute, over shift pay and negotiating rights, which has cost the airline more than £3m and disrupted many of its services, will continue.

Yesterday's talks were called to discuss whether shop stewards representing engineering and maintenance workers at Heathrow airport, London, could agree on a joint claim to British Airways.

It is understood that yesterday representatives of the engineering workers asked the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) whether it could impose the limits on pay imposed by the social contract. But they were told that Acas could not influence pay policy.

More services: More maintenance engineers at regional airports are expected to resume normal working today, British Airways said. Services between regional airports, and from them to Europe and North America, will be increased.

Two senior stewards at Belfast, Edinburgh and Aberdeen joined Manchester and Liverpool yesterday in returning to normal duties. The resumption of a two-hourly service between London and Edinburgh will be followed today by resumption of a two-hourly service between London and Belfast, the airline said.

Better training in mental care is urged for GPs

By Our Health Services Correspondent

There is nothing healthy about the mental health services in the United Kingdom and any searching consideration of their quality and prospects evokes concern bordering on despair. That is stated by Mind, the campaigning arm of the National Association for Mental Health, in its evidence to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service.

Mental illness is the most widespread and growing health trouble. That has been repeatedly recognized and brushed under the carpet. Mind says. The Department of Health offers little prospect of advance for the next twenty-five years.

Those responsible for the distribution of resources for health care often seemed to be aiming at little more than a holding operation. No firm distinction was drawn between the mad and the sad: people who needed professional care and treatment and those who had other needs related to mental health.

Many who needed specialized help failed to get it; others for whom alternative solutions existed were not encouraged to use them.

The disturbing and expensive increase in the prescription of psychotropic drugs underlined the need to clarify where medical help was essential and where other forms of help would meet the need. The key lay in improving the training and experience of family doctors in dealing with mental illness.

Mr Tony Smythe, director of Mind, said later that many people were looking for help to fringe groups outside the National Health Service. It would be regrettable if people with serious mental illness were encouraged to seek other than professional help.

Forty children with 'black rash'

Forty children were taken to hospitals in Nottingham when a "black rash" affected the Hyson Grove area after boys who smeared a playground slide with a printing chemical containing hydrochloric acid.

The chemical was stolen from a chemical works at the weekend. The police have warned the public that the chemical could cause black rashes and eventually bone marrow disorders.

Commons 'voice but no vote' plan for Europe MPs

British MPs elected to the European Parliament should have the right to sit and speak in the Westminster Parliament but not to vote, Mr Heath suggested yesterday at the start of the Commons two-day debate on direct elections to the European Assembly.

That, he said, would be the best way of ensuring that they knew the views of the British Parliament.

Such MPs would attend Westminster only on European matters.

Parliamentary report, page 5

Post with race commission is rejected

Dr Alan Little, who was to have been one of the three directors of the new Commission for Racial Equality, has refused the job. He disagrees with its terms of reference and the way the commission is to be organized. He said yesterday: "The work of persuading, advising and assisting public services to meet the needs of multi-racial communities is being put at risk."

The Community Relations Commission branch of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs is holding an emergency meeting today. Two senior stewards have been offered jobs at the same level of those they now hold, Mr Surendra Kumar, who is responsible for keeping in touch with community organizations, and Mr Aaron Haynes, principal development officer.

Mr David Lane, chairman-designate of the Commission for Racial Equality, last night regretted that Dr Little was not accepting the job. He rejected criticisms of the way the body was being organized, and gave an assurance that there was to be no bias in appointments.

Qualified recruits lacking for parts of Civil Service

By Peter Heanessy

The Government is finding it difficult to recruit sufficient qualified candidates for the scientific and technical branches of the Civil Service in spite of recession in the private sector.

Specialist fields particularly affected include building and quantity surveying, electrical engineering, chemical engineering, medicine and veterinary research.

The annual report of the Civil Service Commission, published yesterday, offers no prospect of a revival for the phenomenon. But it notes that science graduates tend to "shop around" a large number of potential employers before making their career choice.

The longstanding difficulty in recruiting government lawyers is continuing. Last year only 38 of 12 vacancies for the ranks of legal assistants and senior legal assistants were filled. The report says that response to advertisements was good, but the quality continues to be disappointing.

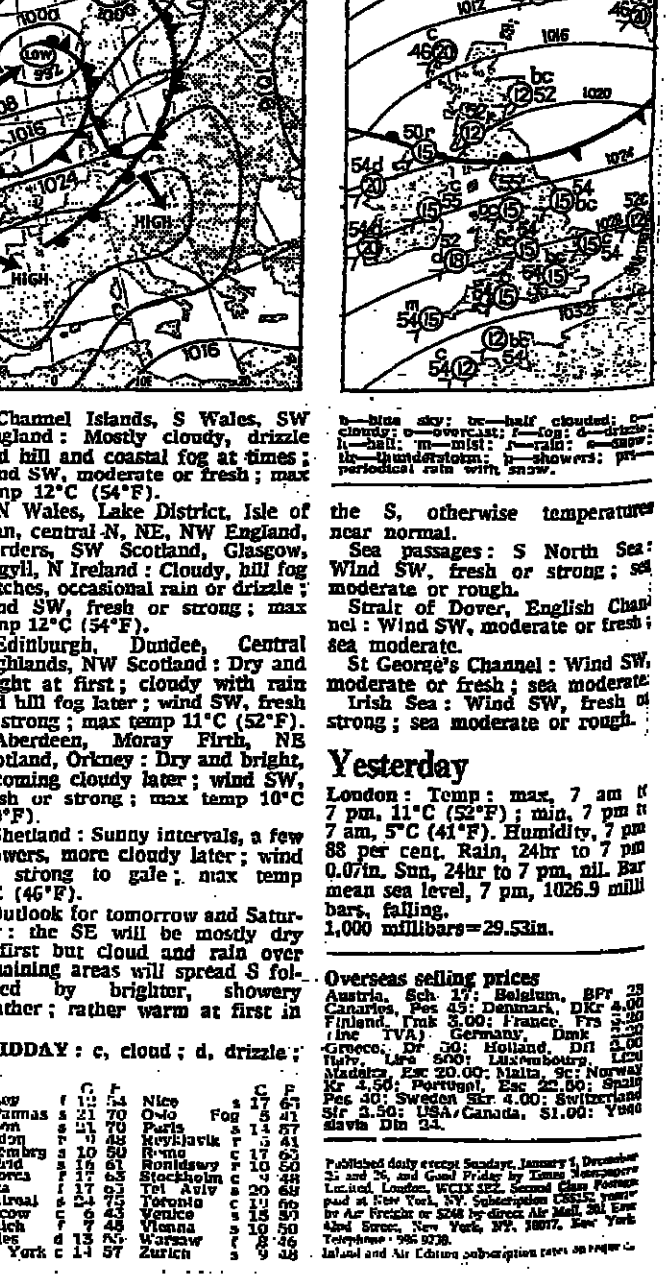
There were 75 opportunities last year for medical and senior medical officers, of which 55 were taken up. It proved especially difficult to find candidates with a "sound background" in community medicine. Likewise, the persistent shortage of veterinary officers caused concern, with 41 of 64 posts remaining empty.

On the administrative side of the Civil Service, the lack of suitable applicants for Department of Employment cadetships was acute. Of 603 candidates for 20 vacancies, only 22 reached an acceptable standard.

The report sounds a disquieting note for the careers of administration trainees admitted last year, the key entry grade for the men and women most likely to rise to the highest posts in Whitehall. All 190 vacancies were filled, applications were up by 42 per cent compared with 1975, but fewer candidates achieved the highest marks in the competition compared with the pattern of recent years.

In 1976 about 60 per cent of the externally recruited candidates entering the administration trainee grade were educated at Oxford or Cambridge.

Weather forecast and recordings



Influenza blamed for deaths

The A-strain influenza virus, prevalent throughout the country, has caused the deaths of up to 30 elderly patients at St Michael's Hospital, Aylsham, Norfolk, during the past three weeks.

The same virus is believed to have caused 16 deaths recently at an old people's home at Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.

Kidnap children are to stay in Britain

From Our Correspondent
Winchester

Jennifer, aged 29, had died in California.

After their divorce in 1973 she married Mr Tim O'Bar, a Californian accountant. By mutual consent she took with her the three children by her marriage to Mr Cox.

When he heard of his wife's death, Mr Cox, a Jehovah's Witness, flew to the United States and kidnapped his children during custody proceedings in California.

Refusing to make an order for the children to be returned to the United States for custody proceedings, Judge McLellan described Mr O'Bar as materialistic and philistine to a marked degree.

The judge said of the smoking of cannabis: "I am compelled to and do regard this practice as constituting such a moral danger to these children that their future ought to be considered by the English court. As the children get older they may acquire an habituation to the use of drugs."

Mr O'Bar said afterwards that he intended to continue the fight to have the children returned to the United States.

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HOME NEWS

Officials accused of wrongfully tightening immigration controls

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Evidence that civil servants have decided on their own initiative to exercise stricter control over admission of Asian dependants to Britain, without any new instructions from ministers, has been given by Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York, to members of a cabinet committee.

"The idea that the officials are merely responsive to ministerial directions is nonsense," he says. The figures on which Mr Lyon's statement is based are represented in the accompanying graph.

Today the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration will have the opportunity of questioning Mr Lyon when he gives evidence to it. Seven members of the committee visited India, Pakistan and Bangladesh in March and spoke to British officials there.

Mr Lyon's information conflicts with allegations of widespread racketeering in the subcontinent involving dependants. That is being given as a reason for stricter control.

Mr Lyon, when Minister of State at the Home Office, tried to speed up entry procedures for those entitled to come to Britain, a statutory commitment in the Immigration Act, 1971. The object was to accelerate fulfilment of the commitment. He says that 33,032 now in the queue in the whole of the subcontinent represent most of those who want to come.

When Mr Lyon visited Dacca in 1975 as Minister of State, officials there granted admission to 23 per cent of the wives and children under 18 whom they dealt with. Mr Lyon says the proportion rose

to about half before his dismissal from the Home Office, and has now dropped to about 22 per cent.

He says it is absurd that at Dacca in the last quarter of 1976 only 481 applications were granted out of 2,168 handled. "By no stretch of the imagination can it be alleged that 75 per cent of the cases were bogus."

Another way of looking at the tightening of control is to examine the rate at which wives and children are refused as a percentage of those dealt with. In Islamabad the refusal rate dropped from about 17 per cent at the time of my visit to about 9 per cent at the time of my dismissal. It has now jumped to 23 per cent. No new instructions have been given to the posts since I left.

Immigration control is also being tightened by means of amendments to immigration rules which were laid before Parliament on March 22 and are now beginning to take effect. The amendments, designed to prevent men from being accepted for settlement through marriages of convenience, were made after allegations of abuse, and coincide with a hardening of political attitudes.

The Stinchfield by-election campaign showed that immigration remains an issue that can be exploited.

Twenty leading immigrant organizations are jointly asking the Home Secretary to meet a deputation about the change in the rules and are supporting motions tabled by Mr Lyon in the Commons and Lord Avonbury in the Lords to annul the amendments.

They are also seeking support from candidates in the local elections.

Lower living standards causes drain of talent

Many talented and experienced people leave Britain because of the quality of life here, a report by Overseas Recruitment Services Ltd, a subsidiary of Alfred Marks Bureau, the employment agency, states.

It says that higher salaries abroad, the British tax system and falling living standards are the three main reasons why people leave.

A survey was made of 991 applicants for overseas jobs in engineering, secretarial work, the medical and nursing professions, the hotel trade and catering. Of these in the 31 to 50 age group, identified as the best qualified and most experienced 68 cited higher salaries as their reason for leaving; 59 gave Britain's tax system; and 51 blamed cuts in living standards.

The report says: "These are the people in the prime of life who have a lot to offer and whom the country can ill afford to do without. The three main reasons why these people are going combine to form a most serious indictment of life in the United Kingdom for the talented and experienced."

The United Kingdom taxation system makes it impossible for merit to be adequately rewarded, the report says.

Disillusionment with the alleged lack of opportunity to develop a career in Britain is particularly strong at middle management level or the equivalent in the professions.

Money was not the only reason given for seeking work abroad. Four out of five in the under-21 age group gave wanderlust as their motive. That, the report says, is more prevalent among women than men. Only 35 men owned to it, against 68 women.

The most favoured destinations of those leaving are Europe, the United States and the Middle East, in that order.

"Belief that the grass is greener on the other side of the hill is entirely natural, and never more so when the grass on your side is obviously muddied and trampled," the report says.



Mr Callaghan and News Reporter of the Year, Geraldine Norman, of "The Times".

Callaghan concern over press cynics

The Prime Minister said yesterday that he was worried about the cynicism that seemed to have corroded British life and the press.

Mr Callaghan, who was speaking at a lunch where he presented the 1976 British Press Awards, said: "This degree of cynicism is something that is pulling us down unnecessarily at a time when we ought to be moving up." It was something

"that is not totally justified at all".

But he added that newspapers were a mirror of society. He would do nothing to "bring pressure to bear on the press of this country".

Mr Callaghan disclosed that he had been offered a job as a BBC newscaster 25 years ago. "I might have been another Robin Day, but I escaped from that fate," he said.

Mr David Chipp, editor-in-chief of the Press Association, who announced the awards, praised the quality of the work submitted by young journalists. "This is good for our future, highlights the talent that is becoming available, and above all is evidence of the intelligent direction which editors, news

editors and chief subs are giving to their young staff," he said. The main award winners were: Peter Nieswand (The Guardian) international reporter of the year; Chris Dunkley (Financial Times) critic; Richard Woolveridge (South London Press) young journalist; Geraldine Norman (The Times) news reporter; David Cairns (Daily Express) press photographer; Andrew Alexander (Daily Mail) specialist writer; Christopher Brasher (The Observer) sports writer; Ian Woollidge (Daily Mail) columnist.

Geoffrey Parkhouse (Glasgow Herald) and Alan Whitsett (Belfast Newsletter) were joint provincial journalists of the year, and Douglas Thain, Alan Hurdall and Graham Hind (The Star, Sheffield) were campaigning journalists of the year. A special award was given to Stephen Fay and Hugo Young of The Sunday Times.

Mr Laker is hopeful of Skytrain for July

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent
Skytrain "walk-on" flights between London and New York at a single fare of £59 could begin by July now that the United States Department of Transportation has approved the project, Mr F. A. Laker, chairman of Laker Airways, said in London yesterday.

He described the department's approval, which was granted on Tuesday, as "a major hurdle". He was confident that the two remaining steps had already been cleared by the American State Department and the White House.

"We can start the service 30 days after we get the permission tied up, and assuming that the permission will be issued before June 22, we are talking about July." At a single fare of £59, Skytrain would produce a return on investment of 11.45 per cent.

Mr Laker said he was delighted to have won the latest round in his six-year battle with the British and United States governments to mount no-reservation, walk-on flights to New York.

But although the Department of Transportation appears to have cleared the way for Skytrain, Mr Laker's service could yet become bogged down in negotiations between the two governments on a new Bermuda air services agreement for the north Atlantic routes, which Britain wants worked out by June.

Britain has indicated that it wants Skytrain to be considered separately, but there is no guarantee that the Americans will accept that. If Laker flies alongside British Airways, the American case, that their two main airlines should continue to operate, will be stronger.

The British Government embraced the cause of Skytrain earlier this year after the Court of Appeal ruled that Mr Shore, the former Secretary of State for Trade, had exceeded his authority in stopping the service.

In brief

Clothing of dead girl changed

Janis Shepherd, 24, an Australian waitress, died as a result of compression of the neck, probably from an arm lock, Detective Chief Superintendent Ronald Harvey, head of Hertfordshire CID, said yesterday.

The woman, aged 24, whose body was found in a shallow grave at Nonsuch Common, Weymouth, on Monday, had also undergone a partial clothing change at the hands of her murderer.

Dracula and Whitby

Members of the Dracula Society will next week visit Whitby, North Yorkshire, which features in Bram Stoker's classic of horror, Mr Donald Waterman, the resort's director of tourism, said yesterday: "Look what Shakespeare has done for Stratford. We want to see what Dracula can do for Whitby."

Miner dies in accident

Mr Jan Dolez, aged 56, a coalface worker, died yesterday in a shovelling accident at Wolsanton colliery, Staffordshire. Another worker was taken to hospital.

Eleven years for rape

Percy Robinson, aged 45, a labourer, of Rosemary Gardens, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, was jailed at Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court yesterday for 11 years for raping a girl of 15 last summer.

Jubilee special

British Rail will attempt a jubilee year record-breaking run by its new high-speed train from Bristol to London on May 7 at an average speed of 100 mph.

Coppins for sale

Coppins, near Iwer, Buckinghamshire, once the home of the Duke of Kent, is for sale again, at £500,000 with about 13 acres of gardens.

Jubilee letter form

A pictorial air mail letter form, illustrated with a photograph of the Queen, will be issued on May 11 as a silver jubilee memento.

Rail ticket forgers tackled

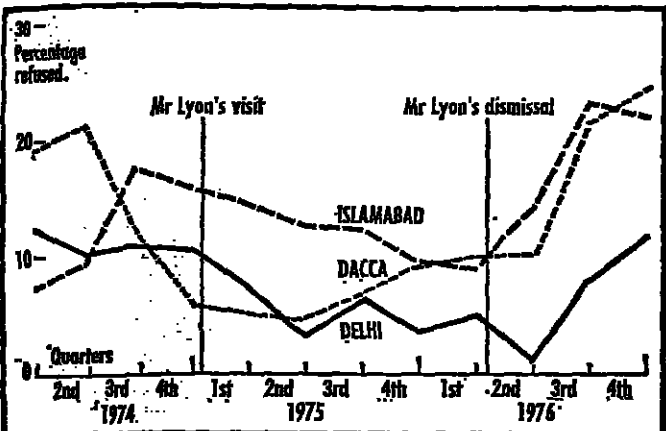
By a Staff Reporter

Colour-coded season tickets are being introduced by British Rail in an attempt to cut the estimated £6m lost each year through fraudulent use.

British Rail remained deliberately vague yesterday about the new coding but explained that tickets in different colours for successive periods will make it more difficult for passengers to trick inspectors.

The new colours will be introduced without warning. In Scotland some annual season ticket holders have been issued with the new tickets.

The colour-coding will prevent passengers from attempting to alter the date on expired season tickets. British Rail said: "Because the customer will not know the colour and coding of his next ticket, it will be difficult for him to forge."



Rejected applications for settlement in Britain, made by immigrants' wives and children in Dacca, Delhi and Islamabad, expressed as a proportion of those dealt with, as shown in a Rumymede Trust bulletin.

Genetic effect of X-rays to be studied

Genetic hazards associated with the use of X-rays for diagnostic purposes are to be investigated by the National Radiological Protection Board.

The study will include a survey at more than 100 National Health Service hospitals of the number and age of patients and the type of examination performed, starting in June.

The purpose is to review the importance of medical X-rays in contributing to the so-called genetically significant dose of radiation received by the population.

An EEC directive requires that a record be kept of all sources of radiation that could have genetic effects and that radiation from medical examination and treatment be kept to a minimum.

Earlier research has detected an increase in genetically-related diseases in children, up to 10 years old, of mothers who were X-rayed in pregnancy.

A report from the United Nations Scientific Committee on the effects of atomic radiation indicates that the use of diagnostic X-rays has been increasing at about 3 per cent a year during the past few years.

Army doctors in rabies check

Two Army doctors in London are having a course of injections against rabies after treating a Gurkha soldier who died of the disease in Hongkong's British military hospital.

The doctors were not in isolation and were carrying on normally, the Army and the Department of Health said yesterday.



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Commitment to direct elections: Dr Owen sees little chance of federal states of Europe

Profumo inquiry records only a memory

Moral obligation of Community to help in narrowing gap between the rich and the poor of the world

House of Commons

Dr David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Plymouth, Devon, Lab), opening the debate on direct elections to the European Parliament, said that while the House of Commons would block the European Community's proposals for a referendum on direct elections, the Government would not be deterred from pursuing its policy of direct elections.

The Government were not announcing decisions at this stage. They would wait to hear the results of the debate on direct elections. In the light of those results the Government would immediately consider the House of Commons' proposals for direct elections.

The Cabinet's conclusions on an electoral system and the related issues would be brought forward by the Government as proposals to the House.

The principle of a directly-elected Parliament was incorporated in the Treaty of Rome 20 years ago as a necessary element of the Community. The goal of direct elections was clear. Parliament in an electoral system was one of the goals which the Community assumed when they joined the Community.

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revelation of the conciliation procedure also an important example of the welcome growing dialogue between the Parliament and the Council.

Mr Owen said that the reforms of the working of the Assembly have come about because of the work of MPs from both sides of the House. He would like to single out the work of Sir Peter Kirk.

He would like to join in paying tribute to his work as a constructive and effective European. We all extend our sympathy to his family in their loss.

While member states had been willing to permit an extension of the Parliament's powers in certain areas, the future of the Community would depend on the future of the Community.

He was not sure any of them had seen a clear vision of the future of the Community.

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I realize there are many different views on this issue. If you were to analyse what lies behind a lot of the anxiety about the whole question of the European Parliament it is the issue of federalism. It is never really fully discussed at the time of the European Community. (Cheers.)

He was well aware of the fact that in 10 years' time might come the time when the House of Commons would be asked to vote on the future of the Community. He was not sure any of them had seen a clear vision of the future of the Community.

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Kingdom, as many alleged and he believed, those who fought elections on that plank were unlikely to succeed. But if federal sentiment were to develop here it would be right democratically that it should be represented by candidates chosen for the European Parliament.

They had to ensure that members elected in this country should be genuine representatives of the British people. It would be damaging to the Community if the House of Commons were to elect members who were not genuine representatives of the British people.

The question of the enlargement of the Community would be a severe test not only for the European Parliament but for the Community's institutions, individually and collectively.

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Lord Trefort, indicating a debate on public records, said that the Public Record Office dated back to 1837, the first modern public records Act was passed. The last major study of the archives was by the Griggs Commission in 1954. It resulted in the 1958 Public Records Act.

The results had been on the whole successful. For the first time a specific responsibility was placed on the departments for the long-term preservation of records. It established the 50-year rule, which was later reduced to 30 years.

Since 1954 there had been great changes in the records, the users, and the way they used them. Who in 1954 could have foreseen the great changes which the computer would bring?

The needs of historians and scholars were different. Since Griggs reported there had been a distinct shift in interest from old-fashioned political and diplomatic history. Now there was an emphasis on economic, social and local history. He was not sure any of them had seen a clear vision of the future of the Community.

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inevitably arise between member states. Our objective must always be a common Community position. The basis for this is that we should agree on a set of principles, and in Rome we demonstrated our measure of fundamental agreement.

We agree that an international economy in which one third of the world's population has an annual per capita income of less than £100 and in which the gap between the poorest and richest nations is growing, is morally unacceptable. It is a source of shame and a force for unpredictable tensions, economic and political, world wide. Such a situation cannot be isolated from world stability. It is a source of shame and a force for unpredictable tensions, economic and political, world wide. Such a situation cannot be isolated from world stability.

We must continue to offer the people of the poorer countries the help and support which we can give. We must ensure that we improve rather than worsen the conditions of the world's poor. We must ensure that we improve rather than worsen the conditions of the world's poor.

We must grow up (he said) and stop spending our time predicting crises every time there is disagreement. Disagreements in these discussions are inevitable, but there is a consensus that any serious international commodity arrangements to stabilize commodity prices around the longer-term market trends. A basis exists for the successful conclusion of a reconvened conference.

The Community had a record of solid achievements. He admitted that there were areas where the Community had not yet found a solution. He admitted that there were areas where the Community had not yet found a solution.

Some ideas discussed were unworkable and could not be supported by politicians prepared to show vision and to give a lead to their domestic public opinion.

It was not feasible to meet immediately the needs of the developing world, but that practical political reality should not diminish the force of the commitment to deal cooperatively with the serious and urgent problems of developing countries.

Free vote for Tories on electoral method

Mr John Davies, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Kettering, Northants, Con), said that he should not be debating the issue of principle today. The Prime Minister himself had said that the principle was beyond recall.

His purpose must be to deal more with the specifics of the White Paper. These concerned the details of the electoral system, the question of the dual mandate, but there was no means of reaching a decision on the principle of direct elections. This was what was at issue.

He hoped there would be a change, perhaps between the debate on the document and the presentation of a Bill for second reading, when decisions could be taken on the issues rehearsed in the document.

There was nothing of the firm proposal as opposed to the options, until they came to the framework of the Bill, they might be down to a nail-de-sac. It would be a nail-de-sac, it would be a nail-de-sac, it would be a nail-de-sac.

There had been, until recently, some discussion of the possibility of one or two other countries to carry through the necessary legislative processes to ensure direct elections. These had been dismissed.

It was clear that Denmark was now willing and able to do so. He had been to France to clarify in his own mind the debate. There was no doubt that both the Gauls and the Communists would not seek to obstruct the enactment necessary to proceed to direct elections.

If we fail (he said), we shall be the only ones. If we are the only ones, we shall be the only ones.

ones, we will stop the rest. There will be no forgiving and forgetting the fact that we have done so.

All the evidence led to the conclusion that it would virtually prove impossible to discharge the dual mandate. The parliamentary democracy would be much heavier than those of any equivalent parliament in the Community at the moment.

There seemed inevitably to be a growing weight of work in the European Parliament making a combination of the two virtually unworkable in the long run.

Undoubtedly the death of Sir Peter Kirk, whom they all knew as a stout colleague and great friend, owed something to the extraordinary burden put on him in discharging the dual duties involved.

He accepted that there might be exceptional cases where for specific reasons there would be a need for a person to fulfil the dual mandate. They should work towards making it not impossible to have a dual mandate but at least unlikely that people would do so. It should not be excluded but it should not be obligatory.

The electoral method decided upon would be of great importance to the attainment of direct elections. Provided the House got to a point to declare which electoral system it preferred, it would be content to abide by the majority.

Mr Davies said that he had said that he would have a free vote on the method as well.

Mr Davies - The answer is "Yes".

The Opposition will do so. (Some cries of "Oh.")

He judged his view on a single issue to be a fair reflection of the relation to the situation he found at the end of the debate.

He would not be happy with an arbitrary decision by the Government of the will of the House based simply on the discussions in the debate. There must be a vote in the House on the agreement with any electoral system.

It seemed desirable there should be a vote in the House on the agreement with any electoral system.

A directly-elected European Parliament would bring a searching wind of change to the House of Commons. It would be a searching wind of change to the House of Commons. It would be a searching wind of change to the House of Commons.

There was no danger of the European Parliament becoming a kind of power hungry monster. Its ambitions would be thwarted by the constitutional rules of the Community itself.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Surrey, Con) said that there was no obligation on this country under the Treaty of Rome to embark on direct elections, and there was no reason why the electorate to do so, either by way of election or referendum. Until

there was, he was wholly opposed to any such far-reaching change.

Any pretence that direct elections would be a simple matter, or that the referendum would be just another manoeuvre in a long and rather murky story. The electorate had to be given a choice between two alternatives, and that those further proposals would be a matter for Parliament to decide.

The practical consequence of direct elections would be to diminish the power and authority of the Commons and of the British people. It would be a matter for Parliament to decide.

If there was a rival elected Parliament, the House of Commons would be a shadow. It would be a shadow. It would be a shadow.

It was suggested that they should introduce a halfhearted and unworkable system of proportional representation to the elections. Whatever PR system was selected it would give more power to the parties rather than individuals.

They should walk no further into the quagmire into which they knew at least that the House of Commons was not like this but the Strasbourg Assembly has approved it and I do not think you think here at Westminster.

British assemblies, each representing 500,000 people, would be in a position to exercise a veto. They would be in a position to exercise a veto. They would be in a position to exercise a veto.

It was suggested that they should introduce a halfhearted and unworkable system of proportional representation to the elections. Whatever PR system was selected it would give more power to the parties rather than individuals.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said that he had been asked to give evidence to the Public Records Office. They included the National Enterprise Board, the Race Relations Board, the Public Relations Board, and the transport undertakings.

Some means or advice ought to be given whether their records would be given or destroyed. Instead of being destroyed.

The problem was being considered by the Advisory Council on the Records of the Government. The statute by the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts had initiated a pilot study to see the records of the Government.

One particular problem had been raised. That was, did the Government have a duty to disclose or destroy records? It was a question of public records. It was a question of public records.

It was a difficult question because the records were not records. They were not records. They were not records.

But there could be good reasons for that.

Some years ago (he said) I had to conduct an inquiry after the Profumo incident. There were all sorts of records. Most secret records. All sorts of indiscretions recorded.

Were those records to be kept or not? The answer to that was the records were given in confidence. I assured every person who gave information that it was completely confidential and would not be disclosed.

Afterwards only one copy was kept. Lots of people would have liked to have read it.

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Optimism by the Council of Ministers that differences between Britain and the other eight member states could be resolved by the Commission's proposal for the package and concentrate on finding a solution to the remaining problems. The Commission had been asked to find a solution to the remaining problems. The Commission had been asked to find a solution to the remaining problems.

Opening the debate on agricultural prices, Mr John Tomlinson, Under Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that the Community was a most important part of the world market. The collapse of that market as a result of sharp increases in price had been a disaster for the producers in all other European countries.

If a solution is not found (he said) the difficulties facing the Council will be more acute than at the beginning of next week. It would be a disaster for the producers in all other European countries.

There would then be no common prices and therefore no monetary cooperation. No import levies and we shall be in a holy mess.

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It would be wrong for consumers to insist that they were being given a choice. They were not given a choice. They were not given a choice.

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Mr Heath wants Euro MPs in the Commons

Mr Edward Heath (Bexley, Sidcup, Con) said he welcomed the Government's publication of the White Paper. He said that the House should be speedy action. Those who were to procrastinate and delay the House were wrong.

The House ought to be giving a lead. This was one sphere in which Europe expected them to be giving a lead. The Community must be made democratic.

He could not understand those who had opposed entry to the Community because they said it was democratic, but once Britain was in the Community they wanted to make it more democratic.

I do not agree (he said) that to have a directly-elected assembly thereby creates a federal institution. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Some of the problems came from a misunderstanding - the belief that direct elections would transfer power to the European Community. It would not transfer power to the European Community. It would not transfer power to the European Community.

Direct elections would give the Assembly greater status within the Community and greater influence over the Commission and over the Council of Ministers. It would give the Assembly greater status within the Community and greater influence over the Commission and over the Council of Ministers.

Many people who voted and supported entry into Europe now bitterly regretted having done so. If they had a directly-elected assembly, it would become power hungry or insist on more power.

The list system of election would put enormous power into the hands of the people who drew up the list. If there were to be a list system, it would put enormous power into the hands of the people who drew up the list.

Mr Russell Paterson (West Aberdeenshire, Con) said that Britain should become the engine. They should proceed to direct elections and take their place in Europe as leaders and not as followers. He would vote to this end.

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The time was not opportune in 1978 to bring about direct elections. The British people would not have the time to make a choice. It would be a choice between two alternatives, and that those further proposals would be a matter for Parliament to decide.

It was suggested that they should introduce a halfhearted and unworkable system of proportional representation to the elections. Whatever PR system was selected it would give more power to the parties rather than individuals.

They should walk no further into the quagmire into which they knew at least that the House of Commons was not like this but the Strasbourg Assembly has approved it and I do not think you think here at Westminster.

British assemblies, each representing 500,000 people, would be in a position to exercise a veto. They would be in a position to exercise a veto. They would be in a position to exercise a veto.

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Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said that he had been asked to give evidence to the Public Records Office. They included the National Enterprise Board, the Race Relations Board, the Public Relations Board, and the transport undertakings.

Some means or advice ought to be given whether their records would be given or destroyed. Instead of being destroyed.

The problem was being considered by the Advisory Council on the Records of the Government. The statute by the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts had initiated a pilot study to see the records of the Government.

One particular problem had been raised. That was, did the Government have a duty to disclose or destroy records? It was a question of public records. It was a question of public records.

It was a difficult question because the records were not records. They were not records. They were not records.

But there could be good reasons for that.

Some years ago (he said) I had to conduct an inquiry after the Profumo incident. There were all sorts of records. Most secret records. All sorts of indiscretions recorded.

Were those records to be kept or not? The answer to that was the records were given in confidence. I assured every person who gave information that it was completely confidential and would not be disclosed.

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Referendum was not about direct elections

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said when the people of this country voted in the referendum, they voted on whether Britain should stay in or come out of an economic community. This point was stressed constantly by the pro-Britainers throughout the campaign. The people were not voting to institute a system of direct elections and this was not a central issue at the time of the campaign.

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proposition to get rid of the Parliament, which he would favour, it should be elected. But this was not an urgent matter and there was no time to do so. It was a choice between two alternatives, and that those further proposals would be a matter for Parliament to decide.

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WEST EUROPE

Newspapers say Dutch collector's £5m art gift to Pretoria University belonged to Jews

From Sue Masterman
The Hague, April 20
Allegation that a £5m art collection donated to Pretoria University was amassed from Jews fleeing the Nazi persecution in Holland appeared simultaneously in two leading Dutch and South African newspapers today.

The collection was donated last year by Mr Jacob Abraham van Tilburg, aged 88, who emigrated to South Africa in 1951. He had been arrested after the Second World War on charges of collaboration, but the case was later dropped.

Today's reports in the Rotterdam-based *Algemeen Dagblad* and the Johannesburg *Star* after a joint investigation by the two newspapers.

The *Dagblad* quoted former members of the Dutch resistance as saying that Mr van Tilburg built his collection on "blood money"—funds belonging to Jewish families who fled the Nazi terror in occupied Holland. Most of them failed to return.

The newspaper reports that Mr van Tilburg was a member of the Dordrecht town council for the Protestant Christian Historic Union during the occu-

pation. He was arrested immediately after the war and tried by a special tribunal. Charges of collaboration were finally dropped in May, 1948, because, the paper says, of insufficient evidence.

The newspaper claims that Mr van Tilburg promised to help Jews whose goods he held in safekeeping to escape to unoccupied France or Switzerland. Of the 20 to 30 families involved, only one individual was known to have reached safety. The fee for a "ticket to freedom" was between £200 and £300.

The paper also records that immediately after the war Mr van Tilburg was fined £70,000 for black marketeering, but had the fine reduced to £15,000.

Mr van Tilburg, who lives near Pretoria in a 21-roomed house converted to house his collection, is reported in both newspapers as saying the accusations are "filthy lies".

Dr Lou de Jong, director of Holland's State Institute for War Documentation, said today that he could not comment since he had not yet seen the full documentation. The dossier of the van Tilburg case, handled by the special tribunal, the court for rehabilitation and various other courts were in the Min-

istry of Justice archives and would under normal circumstances remain secret for 50 years.

"However, if the Government is asked by Parliament to explain this matter, we would have access to the dossier", Dr de Jong said.

Various political parties are considering tabling questions to the Government on the affair. The president of the tribunal before which Mr van Tilburg appeared, Mr Jaap Burger, is now one of the Queen's Advisers. With elections pending, the affair has far-reaching political implications.

Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes: Professor E. M. Hamman, the Rector of Pretoria University, said today the university would return the art works to their rightful owners if it was proved they had been improperly obtained. The university's council would investigate the allegations.

It is understood that the university was informed of rumours about the collection at the time it was donated by Mr van Tilburg. A member of the university council, Dr C. L. du Bruyn, had approached the Dutch Embassy in Pretoria, but they were unable to provide any official guidance.

Dr Owen backs EEC aid to Third World

From John Winder
Strasbourg, April 20

The EEC record of aid to developing countries was stoutly defended by Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, in his maiden speech as President of the Council of Foreign Ministers to the European Parliament here today.

His speech, concentrating almost entirely on the needs of the Third World and the Community's role in providing that aid, was well received, but that was the only bright spot for Britain during the day. Dr Owen himself was criticized because he had to leave only 30 minutes after making his speech to open the Westminster debate on direct European elections.

Later, the British Government was condemned for its attitude in the farm price negotiations by Mr John Corrie, a Conservative MP who asked whether Mr John Silkin, the Agriculture Minister, was out to destroy not only the common agricultural policy but the whole concept of the Community.

This part of the debate was boycotted by the British Labour MPs, who walked out with the rest of the Socialist group in protest against the failure to call Lord Ardwick to speak in the debate on Dr Owen's statement.

Dr Owen told the Parliament that the aid affecting the livelihood of the Community's own citizens was the EEC's first priority, but not its only priority.

"We are also citizens of the world," he said. "We have responsibilities to the underdeveloped world. The European Community has never seen itself, thankfully, as an exclusive inward-looking organization, and the European Council devoted considerable time at Rome to the North-South dialogue."

He said there was justice in the developing world's demand for a more equitable economic order and it was vital to all the nations to achieve it. The Community, although inevitably concerned primarily with the less fortunate among its own people, had a moral obligation to show a similar concern for the disadvantaged of the world.

"We cannot abandon the world's poor to the mercies of the Malthusian tragedy of war, famine and disease," Dr Owen said and was applauded by the MPs.

Dr Owen added: "If I can speak bluntly, the Community has always had a depressing tendency to denigrate its own achievements, often because it fixes its sights on wholly unrealistic targets and then feels a sense of let-down when they are not met."

"We must continue to offer the people of the poorer countries the prospect of lives no longer dominated by want and insufficiency."

Parliamentary report, page 5

OVERSEAS



China's campaign against the "gang of four", said to have been led by Chiang Ching, Chairman Mao's widow, has been carried into street theatres. In this production in a Shanghai street, the masked player portraying Chiang Ching wears spectacles and a skirt.

Patriotic Front rebuffs Owen plan for Rhodesia conference

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, appears to have been sharply rebuffed by the Patriotic Front, the most militant of the Rhodesian African nationalist groups, on his proposals for a constitutional conference.

Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, the joint leaders of the Patriotic Front, said in Lusaka that they rejected any full participation in constitutional talks by the two other African leaders, Bishop Abel Muzorewa (who will be in London next week) and the Rev (Mabasa) Sibhelo. They also insisted that Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, could attend only as a member of the delegation of Britain, as the constitutional power.

However, it has been noted in London that the five "front" presidents issued no communiqué after their meeting in Luanda this week and have not, it appears, endorsed the Patriotic Front's claim to be the sole representative of African opinion. It may well be, therefore, that Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe will not prove quite so uncompromising as the participants at the previous conference to join in new constitutional talks. The consultations which Britain is under-

taking in the next few weeks are designed to find out what measure of agreement exists in practice. Nicholas Ashford writes from Johannesburg: Dr Owen received a somewhat cautious gesture of support today from Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, who told Parliament he thought the new British initiative on Rhodesia "had a chance of success and should not be written off".

But he added that its success would depend on the reasonableness and fairness of the various parties involved. If the initiative failed he believed it would not be the fault of the whites in Rhodesia. South Africa, he went on, was not willing to play a role in solving the Rhodesian question, but had and was doing so. It was important that the western world recognized that South Africa had such a role to play. On South-West Africa (Namibia), the Prime Minister said he was prepared to have further talks with the Western powers on the future of the territory, but there were "certain limits beyond which South Africa was not prepared to go, no matter what demands are made".

According to press reports, so far unconfirmed, Mr Vorster is expected to have another meeting with the ambassadors of Britain, the United States,

France, West Germany and Canada within the next two weeks to discuss an international acceptable solution to the Namibian constitutional problem.

Ambassadors representing the five Security Council members met Mr Vorster shortly before Easter. The outcome of that meeting will be discussed in Cape Town on Friday when the Prime Minister has talks with members of the constitutional committee of the Turnhalle conference on Namibia.

In his speech in Parliament, Mr Vorster argued at considerable length that discrimination in South Africa was steadily being eliminated. Making his second speech on discrimination in two days, he listed a series of areas, including schools, sport, constitutional, development, travel and housing facilities where he said action had already been taken. He gave an assurance that attention would continue to be given to those areas where discrimination still existed.

"My policy and that of my party is not based on the belief that one race is superior to another," he stated. "My policy takes account of the differences between race and race and group and group. No progress could be made unless it was accepted that different people had varying outlooks and life styles."

Junta acts against family of dead banker

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, April 20

President Videla has confirmed the existence of close links between left-wing guerrillas and high finance in Argentina. A banking group, he said, had invested huge sums earned by guerrilla kidnappings, robberies and extortion.

The President was making the first official statement on military investigations into a banking group centred on Señor David Graiver, whose reported death last year was followed by bank collapses in the United States, Belgium and Switzerland.

"This so-called Graiver group worked for the subversives," President Videla said. "They received several million dollars in deposits to be invested here and abroad for the benefit of subversion, and they were fully conscious of what they were doing."

He said the military junta was dealing out summary punishment to Graiver's father, a Polish-Jewish immigrant, his brother, wife and three associates under an "institutional Act" introduced last June to deal with activities considered harmful to the higher interests of the nation.

The six remain in jail at the pleasure of the Junta, lose their civil and political rights and forfeit their wealth and property until they can prove it was genuine. They are still liable to trial and a military prosecutor is gathering evidence to decide whether they should face a court martial.

Rome: Señor Mario Firmenich, head of the Montoneros urban guerrillas, gave a press conference here at which two Peronist former governors, Señor Oscar Bidegain, of Buenos Aires province, and Señor Ricardo Obregón Cano, of Córdoba, pledged their support.

Señor Firmenich was attending the inauguration of a new movement aimed at replacing the present regime.

Dr Rodolfo Puigros, former rector of the University of Buenos Aires, also backed the new movement.—Reuter.

QC accepts Soviet dissent case

By Marcel Beding

A leading British QC, Mr John Macdonald, has been asked to help Professor Yuri Orlov, a Soviet dissident in defence in the event of charges being made against him. It is believed to be the first attempt to obtain the services of a Western lawyer in the trial of a Soviet dissident. Mr Orlov will not be able to appear in court for Professor Orlov, but hopes to be given access to his client for the preparation of the defence.

Professor Orlov, a physicist, is the leader of a group formed last year to promote observance of the Helsinki agreements. He has not yet been charged, but his family and colleagues fear that he will be accused of fabricating slanders against the Soviet Union, or of anti-Soviet propaganda.

15 factories affected by Seveso poison

From Our Correspondent
Rome, April 20

The Lombardy regional government today decided to spread asphalt over the grounds of 15 factories at Cesano Maderno, near Milan, after Swiss scientists reported high levels of the dioxin poison which escaped from a plant at Seveso last summer. The grounds will be fenced off and the factories cleaned.

The regional government, in an urgent meeting to discuss the Swiss findings, decided against closing down the factories, where 118 workers are employed.

Cesano Maderno is near Seveso, which was evacuated after a cloud of dioxin escaped from the Swiss-owned Icmesa chemicals plant there, but it has not been officially listed as seriously contaminated.

The Lombardy regional councillor responsible for health, Signor Vittorio Rivolta, told journalists after the meetings that up to 200 microgrammes of dioxin per square metre had been found round the factories. The maximum level permitted for safety is 0.001 microgrammes. It was distributed very unevenly and was thought to have been brought in by vehicles, he said.

Bonn's role in curbing terrorism defended

From Dan van der Vat
Bonn, April 20

Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, gave a warning today against overreaction to terrorism. Speaking in an emergency Bundestag debate on the assassination of Herr Siegfried Buback, the Attorney General, he said the people had a right to protection and expected terrorists to be punished, but not at the cost of infringement of basic freedoms.

Terrorism was an international problem and no country, not even one ruled by military dictators, had come up with an answer overnight.

West Germany had shown that it was not helpless against terrorism, he added. It had introduced many new measures at home and worked abroad to improve international co-operation. The Government was always ready to reexamine the legal defences against terrorism, but would not be panicked.

Herr Schmidt presented the House with a balance sheet of terrorism in West Germany over the past decade. A total of 123 people had been imprisoned for terrorism or abetting it, and another 60 were awaiting confirmation of sentence. Charges had been laid against another 85, while 140 more were under official investigation and warrants had been issued for the arrest of 35 other suspects.

At the same time, 17 people

had been killed by terrorists, 38 injured and 13 held hostage. Ten terrorists were killed in battles with the police.

The Chancellor said the right way to deal with political violence was to isolate its perpetrators morally and convince sympathizers that all they were doing was supporting murderers. The risk of suppressing legitimate dissent must be avoided. There was no point in banning political groups which favoured violence because the voters could be relied upon, as they had shown, to prove their rejection of these at every election.

Harsher sentences would not deter those determined on murder, he added, and that introducing special procedures for dealing with terrorist crimes would create a dangerous precedent.

Dr Helmut Kohl, the Opposition leader, accused the Government of trying to make light of terrorism and demanded tougher legal measures. The Opposition would table proposals because confidence in the constitution of the state would be endangered unless everything possible were done, he said. The people were worried the state might not be able to come with terrorism.

"Police still have no trace of the three men wanted in connection with the murder on Monday Thursday of Herr Buback, his driver and a passenger in his car."

Strikebound Danish papers printed by duplicators

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen, April 20

Danish newspaper publishers plan to use duplicators and large office offset printing machines to produce emergency newspapers despite the unofficial countrywide strike by printing employees, which is now in its third week. Two emergency newspapers of this type appeared today.

Statements by various publishers indicate that the loss is paid for by the Association of Newspaper Owners is not correct. The newspapers are bearing the losses themselves, apart from a token sum from the association.

The total cost to newspaper owners has already exceeded £10m, he estimated, and many of the 40 newspapers involved will not be able to survive. "It has been widely claimed that six newspapers are likely to close, but I am sure that the number will be greater than that," he said.

Several opposition politicians have appealed to Mr Holger Joergensen, the Prime Minister, to intervene in the conflict. He has refused. He has also warned newspapers in financial difficulty that they could not expect assistance from the Government.

Spanish general dismissed in Suárez clampdown

Madrid, April 20.—A Spanish Army general was dismissed today as Dr Adolfo Suárez, the Prime Minister, took steps to curb military dissent over the lifting of a 38-year-old ban on the Communist Party.

Brigadier-General Manuel Alvarez Zaba was dismissed as head of the Army Ministry's secretariat, the official *Gazette* announced.

Informed sources said that General Alvarez had sent out a document to Army commanders accusing the Government of failing to advise the Army before its decision to legalize the Communist Party.

Lieutenant-General Felix Alvarez Arenas, the Army Minister, later issued a circular saying he had not authorized the document. It contained certain errors "which threaten to cause great confusion within our com-

mand", he told Army commanders.

The Army Supreme Council, many of whose members are communists in the 1936-39 Spanish Civil War grudgingly accepted the decision, but put on record its disgust. However, Admiral Gabriel Pita de Veiga, the Navy Minister, resigned in protest.

In an apparent gesture to boost Navy morale, King Juan Carlos, who is visiting West Germany, agreed to preside over a ceremony in the Mediterranean port of Cartagena on Monday to hand over a new warship to the Spanish Navy.

Labour sources said that left-wing unions, wary of further upsetting the Army, had decided to refrain from holding demonstrations on May 1.—Reuter and Agence France Presse.

British women seem sure of EEC bridge title

From a Bridge Correspondent
Oxford

After five of seven rounds in the team event of the Conway Master Bridge Championships, the British women seem certain to win their series. Yesterday they won 20-0 against France and continued with a 13-7 win against their closest challengers, The Netherlands.

Italy moved into second place, more than a full match behind Great Britain, whom they meet in this evening's final round.

The British open team, four of whom will represent Great Britain in the European Championships, were outplayed 19-1 by the French. They recovered in the evening when they won 19-1 against The Netherlands, but slipped into third place. To improve on that placing, they will need to beat the leaders, Italy, in the final match.

The British juniors continue to disappoint largely by virtue of their incohesiveness. Yesterday they were at their best when beating France 19-1, but lost 15-5 to The Netherlands after leading at half-time.

The British mixed team beat France and drew with The Netherlands. Championship tables after five rounds are:

OPEN:	1. Italy, 23; 2. France, 19; 3. Great Britain, 17; 4. Germany, 15; 5. The Netherlands, 13; 6. Belgium, 11; 7. Denmark, 9; 8. Sweden, 7; 9. Austria, 5; 10. Switzerland, 3; 11. Norway, 1; 12. Finland, 0.
JUNIOR:	1. Great Britain, 27; 2. France, 23; 3. The Netherlands, 19; 4. Belgium, 15; 5. Germany, 11; 6. Denmark, 7; 7. Sweden, 3; 8. Norway, 1; 9. Austria, 0; 10. Switzerland, 0; 11. Finland, 0.
MIXED TEAM:	1. Germany, 19; 2. Belgium, 17; 3. France, 15; 4. The Netherlands, 13; 5. Great Britain, 11; 6. Denmark, 9; 7. Sweden, 7; 8. Norway, 5; 9. Austria, 3; 10. Switzerland, 1; 11. Finland, 0.

Ports in Finland brought to halt by strike

Helsinki, April 20.—A strike by ship's engineers brought Finnish ports to a virtual standstill today as a result of a strike by the Finnish Maritime Union.

The new stoppages have been called in support of a four-week-old strike by electrical technicians that has affected industry, transport, agriculture and private homes. Finland has been hit by a rash of strikes since all sides failed to renew the traditional national agreement on wages and prices.

Workers in more than half a dozen industries are on strike and stoppages are planned in nearly 20 others.—Reuter.

Spain ratifies union rights

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, April 20

Spain today ratified two trade union rights standards set by the International Labour Office (ILO), one on freedom of association and protection of the right to organize, and the other on collective bargaining.

The ILO has long been concerned with deficiencies in Spanish trade union rights. It sent a commission there in 1969 to study the situation.

Spanish trade union legislation has undergone fundamental changes recently, with ILO principles in this field forming a basis for reference in the preparatory work.

Mr Poniatowski announced that M Jean-Pierre Solson, the State Secretary for Youth and Sports, who is 42, had been asked to become secretary-general of the Independent Republican Party in place of M Jacques Dominiati, at one time a candidate for mayor of Paris.

M Solson would head a new and rejuvenated party leadership, which will include M Dominique Buisson, the president of the Young Socialist Party, possibly as one of the deputies to M Solson, who is to consult with the Prime Minister whether his new party responsibilities would compel him to resign from the Government.

Priest says 120 children abducted in Namibia

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, April 20

One hundred and twenty school children are said to have been abducted from a Roman Catholic mission school in Ovamboland, in northern Namibia (South-West Africa), and transported over the border into Angola.

According to Father W. Ballmeier, a spokesman for the Catholic Church in Windhoek, the children from the Ovamboland mission school were rounded up by armed guerrillas and driven across the border into Botswana. As in the case of the mission school, the children were in primary school and the rest, including 40 girls, were at high school.

It is presumed the guerrillas belonged to the South-West

British crew in air crash 'were doing crossword'

Zagreb, April 20.—A Yugoslav air controller charged with responsibility for a mid-air collision that killed 176 people told a court today that the crew of the British aircraft involved were solving crossword puzzles and discussing the stock market as disaster neared.

Gradimir Tasic, one of eight Zagreb airport controllers on trial, said he was reporting this to explain all the circumstances surrounding the collision between a British Trident and a Yugoslav DC9 near Zagreb last September.

Yesterday Herr Joe Krosse, a Luftwaffe pilot who witnessed the collision from the controls of his aircraft, said that pilots depend on air controllers for flying directions and were under no legal obligation to visually observe the area ahead

Doctor gives evidence in Groucho case

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, April 20

Dr Morley Kert, the doctor who looks after Groucho Marx, the comedian, has spoken up in support of Miss Erin Fleming, Mr Marx's companion and manager. In a statement in court in Santa Monica, California, yesterday, he set out to rebut accusations that Miss Fleming had abused and mistreated Mr Marx.

Miss Fleming, he said, provided Mr Marx, who is 86, with emotional stimulation. Without this he would be concerned about Mr Marx's progress. He conceded that Miss Fleming often shouted at Mr Marx, but Mr Marx seemed to respond favourably. "I think people in show business talk differently than I do," he said.

Dr Kert was speaking at a hearing called to consider a request by Miss Fleming, who has been with Mr Marx for the past seven years, to be appointed a permanent conservator of his estate. The request is opposed by Mr Arthur Marx, the comedian's son, whose lawyers have suggested that his father's life is endangered by the way he is treated.

One of the main pieces of

Russia sweeps to 5-2 chess win over Britain

Moscow, April 20.—The Soviet Union swept to a 5-2 victory over Britain today in the fifth round of the European team chess finals despite fierce resistance by the young British players.

The highlight of the round was the win by Anatoly Karпов over Britain's first board player, Ray Keene.

Tigran Petrosian and Mikhail Tal, the former world champions, were pushed to draw by William Hartston and John Nunn respectively, but Andrew White lost to Yefim Geller.

Wholly Romanishin, another Russian grandmaster, and winner of the latest Hastings tournament, drew against Simon Webb. Robert Bellin lost to Josi Dorfman, the Soviet master, after making a bad slip in his end game, and David Goodman drew with Yevgeny Sveshnikov, the Soviet grandmaster.

Standings with two rounds to go: Soviet Union 29 (one and a half adjourned); Romania 21; East Germany 19; (two adjourned); Yugoslavia 19; (one adjourned); Bulgaria 19; West Germany 17 (two adjourned); Poland 14; (two adjourned); Czechoslovakia 14 (two adjourned).—Reuter.

Correction

In an article in *The Times* on April 19 Herbert von Karajan, director of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, was referred to as a German citizen. He is Austrian.

OVERSEAS

Celebrating Israelis watchful of Arabs and foreign pressure

From Eric Marsden

Jerusalem, April 20

With security increased in cities and on main roads, Israel this evening began celebrating Independence Day, after finishing 24 hours of mourning for the fallen in its wars and campaigns since 1948. Trouble is expected in the period between Independence Day and the tenth anniversary of the 1967 Six-Day War in June, especially as the theme of this year's celebration is the reunification of Jerusalem, a subject that evokes conflicting emotions in a city of some 230,000 Jews and 100,000 Arabs. Additional troops were on patrol in the walled Old City today.

The regional police commander has denied that preventive arrests have been carried out to ensure calm, as on previous Independence Days. He indicated that police would rely on reinforced patrols and spot checks on residential areas.

Although tonight's celebrations were a return to gaiety, with street dancing and fireworks in Jewish areas, most Israelis are aware that they usher in a year of more than usual importance for the nation's future, a time of political change and probably of international pressure on the new government after next month's elections to make concessions to the Arabs.

This awareness was reflected in Independence Day messages and Memorial Day speeches. Mr. Rabin, who is making his last public appearances as Prime Minister before handing over day-by-day duties on Friday to Mr. Shimon Peres, gave the address at the memorial service on Mount Herzl.

He said that "with shouts of happiness filling the land, from Jordan to sea, from Mount Hermon to Ophira (Sharm el Sheikh)", Israelis should remember that independence was not given on a silver platter but was bought by a heavy sacrifice by its young men.

Its foes and the world should know that Israel had no other recourse but to continue to build and defend its national home.

Mr. Peres, speaking last night at a Tel Aviv ceremony, put the emphasis on the new increased Jewish immigration and settlement. He said: "Extreme watchfulness, political scepticism and military" were needed.

The denunciation to press on with Jewish settlement in the occupied areas was given concrete expression yesterday with confirmation that a group of religious soldiers had moved

into an abandoned police station near the Arab village of Masha to set up the first authorized Jewish settlement in Samaria, the northern part of the West Bank. The soldiers are supporters of the extreme nationalist Gush Emunim movement, which has again succeeded in bending the Government to its will.

When members of Gush Emunim tried to start a settlement near Nablus early in 1976, they were persuaded to leave temporarily to an army camp at Kaddum. This settlement remains officially illegal but attempts to remove it are unlikely now that the principle of no Jewish settlement in Samaria has been abandoned.

Gush Emunim is expected to widen its activities and to attempt to implement its plans for settlements throughout the West Bank.

This would present a dilemma for Mr. Peres, who supported the Kaddum settlement in defiance of Mr. Rabin but who as the country's temporary leader must also have in mind the continuing Arab unrest over the spread of Jewish settlements and the land expropriation that often accompanies their creation.

The ministerial settlement committee yesterday approved an additional budget of £1m for building in Jewish settlements in occupied areas and gave final authorization to the Gush Emunim plans for Masha. It is understood that the intention is to transform Masha into a civilian urban settlement later.

The site is only about five miles from the old Jordan boundary with Israel and if President Carter's ideas on security safeguards for Israel ever materialize, it would fall within a demilitarized zone.

In Israel proper, the outlook is sombre as the country enters its thirtieth year. There is no sign of an end to a three-week marine officers' strike which has brought the main

Haifa and Ashdod to a standstill with expressions throughout the economy. Government, whose eyes are on the election, is being criticized for not intervening at a time when the nation's foreign debts are almost £6,000m.

More industrial disputes are brewing since a decision to create the pay of public service workers. Economists have accused ministers of disguising the seriousness of the financial crisis by printing extra money.

Other problems include the continued trend to emigration while overseas immigration and investment are drying up.

Remodelled Army planned for Lebanon

From Robert Fisk

Beirut, April 20

President Sarkis seems certain to send regrouped contingents of the Lebanese Army into south Lebanon now that President Assad, of Syria, is reported to have agreed to the formation of a 50,000 strong force to replace the Army which disintegrated during the Lebanese civil war.

The Syrian newspaper *Al-Sharq* reported in Damascus today that the new army would eventually take over all the duties of the predominantly Syrian Arab League peacekeeping force in Lebanon. President Sarkis would soon issue a decree that would form the constitutional basis for future army action, it said.

Diplomatic sources in Beirut believe the first contingents of the new force will be sent, within nine or 10 days, to south Lebanon to police the strip of border territory adjacent to Israel in which Lebanese Christian militiamen and Palestinian guerrillas have been fighting intermittently for more than four months.

The Lebanese Government has made no secret of its inability to stop the fighting in the south. Syria's tentative attempt to send its own military forces into the area as part of the Arab League ceasefire army met with as much political opposition from Israel that the few Syrian troops stationed within 15 miles of the Israeli border were pulled back to the central mountains.

President Sarkis, however, is known to be anxious to extend Lebanese Government control over the south and Israel could hardly raise objections if Lebanese troops were seen patrolling Lebanese villages.

During the war, a second lieutenant in the Lebanese Army, the soldiers who supported the Christian Maronite cause rallied to defend right-wing positions under General Hanna Said, the Army's officially appointed commander-in-chief.

There were protest strikes in east Beirut, the Christian half of the capital, when General Said was relieved of his command two weeks ago and dispatched to the less political ranks of the diplomatic corps.

His successor, a cavalry officer who saved many of the horses from the Lebanese Army's riding school during the civil war, is Brigadier-General Victor Khoury, who is trusted by many of the Muslim troops. According to government spokesmen, he played no active part in the conflict that destroyed the Army.

The authorities in Beirut have carried out a secret survey of the Army's religious affiliations so that they can deploy Christian troops in Christian areas and Muslim soldiers in Muslim areas in the initial stages of military reconstruction.

This means that Christian soldiers would be sent to south Lebanon's border with Israel. The ultimate aim, of course, is to integrate both religious groups and to ensure that the country's Army is non-sectarian.

Mr. Fuad Boutros, the Lebanese Foreign Minister, has already discussed the Army's prospective role with President Assad, who in turn passed on his own views to Mr. Pierre Gemayel, the Christian Phalangist leader who commands, nominally, some of the Lebanese militiamen fighting the Palestinians in the south.

99.1 pc vote for Sudan President

Khartoum, April 20

President Nimeiry of Sudan has been re-elected head of state for a second six-year term receiving 99.1 per cent of the votes cast, it was announced officially today.

He was unopposed in the election, which began on April 12 and will be sworn in again on May 24.—Reuters.

Public service: Civil servants in Laos have to devote their Saturdays to an irrigation project after spending the week in their offices in Vientiane.

Two hanged in Cairo for bomb attack

Cairo, April 20.—Two Egyptians were hanged today for planning a bomb that killed eight people and injured 68 others on a packed holiday train last summer.

The two had confessed to being members of a terrorist group paid by Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to carry out bomb attacks throughout the country. Libya denied the allegations.

The hangings were the second and third in Egypt in the past 24 hours. A 27-year-old Lebanese was hanged yesterday for attempting to assassinate a former South Yemen Prime Minister now living in Cairo.—AP.

Philippines Muslim group rejects referendum

Manila, April 20.—The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) today formally rejected a government-sponsored referendum in the south-western Philippines last Sunday in which preliminary results show a trend against autonomy for the region.

"We have rejected the referendum because it contradicted the letter and spirit of the Tripoli agreement and was not in conformity with the Gaddaf-Marcos agreement," Dr. Abdul-Amin, the MNLF's political spokesman, said in reply to a reporter's question.

The MNLF had previously called for a boycott of the referendum on the grounds that the questions contained in it were weighted against the movement and were not in accordance with the Gaddaf-Marcos agreement.

Dr. Amin was speaking after arriving at Manila airport from Tripoli as a member of an Islamic mission to resume talks on settling the rebellion.

The Elections Commission, the government agency which supervised the vote in 13 southern Philippines provinces, has said it expects to announce a final result on Saturday.

The commission said today that, based on partial, unofficial returns, more than 95 per cent of the votes rejected the autonomy proposal.

It said about 75 per cent of the 3,800,000 registered voters apparently had voted.—Reuters and Agence France-Presse.

Foreign minister held hostage in El Salvador

San Salvador, April 20.—

Marxist urban guerrillas have kidnapped Señor Mauricio Borbonero Pohl, El Salvador's Foreign Minister, and are threatening to kill him unless the Government releases 37 of their comrades who have been jailed.

The guerrillas, who claim to be members of a group called the Popular Liberation Forces, kidnapped the 40-year-old minister as he left home in his car for his office.

El Salvador is under a state of siege imposed during rioting after presidential elections two months ago. The guerrillas are demanding that the 37 prisoners should be given safe conduct out of the country.—Reuters.

Prisoners are put on show at Zaire rally

Kinshasa, April 20.—President Mobutu of Zaire today presented the first two prisoners captured in anti-insurgency fighting in Shaba province to a mass rally here. The bandaged captives were exposed to the hatred of 60,000 chanting Zaireans.

"Death to them, death to them", one young Zairean cried as the prisoners, wounded in the head and neck, stood in a football stadium, 10 yards from President Mobutu on a podium.

The prisoners were taken in a counter-offensive by Government troops supported by pygmy bowmen who are advancing slowly against Katangese rebels from the copper-mining town of Kolwezi in an attempt to recapture the town of Mutshatsha.

The rally appeared to be the most enthusiastic of the three President Mobutu has organized since the start of the invasion. The dramatic appearance of the prisoners, had not been officially announced beforehand.

A soldier carrying an Israeli-made Uzzi assault rifle stood next to the prisoners, ensuring that they did not lean on the podium railing. One prisoner appeared to be middle-aged, the other in his teens. Both were driven into the stadium in an open vehicle to the boos of the crowd.

Heavily armed soldiers and police, carrying tear gas, grenades and rifles, stood guard as President Mobutu condemned alleged Soviet involvement in the six-week Shaba fighting.

The Soviet Union, Cuba and Angola have denied Zairean allegations of involvement, but President Mobutu said: "They are liars."

In latest official accounts of the fighting, Government forces are said to have almost encircled Mutshatsha, the fall of which would be a big psychological victory for the Government's troops, who are receiving support from 1,500 Moroccan allies.

The invaders in the south are said to be members of the Katangan gendarmes which supported the secession of Shaba, then called Katanga, for three years in the early 1960s and later fled to Angola and other parts of Zaire.—Reuters.

In just three years Racad-Tacticom has trebled its exports

Racal Electronics Limited congratulates Racad-Tacticom and its subsidiaries on winning this year's Queen's Award for Export Achievement. This is a remarkable performance for the Racad-Tacticom Group of Companies. Exports have trebled in three years, significant strides have been made into the Latin American market and technological barriers have been broken in both HF and VHF tactical communications equipment.

In winning this award Racad-Tacticom exported more than £37,000,000 in the year up to mid-1976 representing 86% of total production.

This achievement would not have been possible without the hard work, skill and dedication of the Racad team of people—the finest in the world.

The Chairman and Directors of Racad Electronics Limited wish to express their sincere thanks to everyone inside and outside the Company for the parts they have played in this success.

Even though this is the eighth Award won by the Racad Group in eight years it is especially pleasing to be successful in Royal Silver Jubilee and British Export Years.

RACAL The Electronics Group

Winners of Eight Queen's Awards in Eight years

Racal Electronics Limited, Western Road, Bracknell, Berkshire.

Assad visit helps heal rift between Russia and Syria

From Edmund Stevens

Moscow, April 20

A reconciliation between Syria and Russia has begun in Moscow with the state visit of President Assad of Syria. It ends nearly a year of estrangement caused by Syria's intervention in the Lebanese civil war.

Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, embraced "Comrade" Assad at Moscow airport and showed he was prepared to let bygones be bygones. The nearest Mr. Brezhnev came to a veiled reproach was at the Kremlin banquet for President Assad when he said: "There are sometimes disagreements in the policies of certain Arab states."

Mr. Brezhnev hopes to enlist Syrian support for Soviet moves to reconvene the Geneva peace conference and recover the initiative in the Middle East from the Americans.

Carefully harmonizing his approach to President Assad's preference for moderation, Mr. Brezhnev has been emphasizing the need for a peaceful solution. In his banquet speech, while supporting the Palestinians, he also affirmed

Israel's right to independence and a secure existence.

Earlier this month, in an article timed to coincide with the arrival of Mr. Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, *Izvestia* was far more militant. Deriding American concern for the safety of Israel, it called for the return of Palestine, "their native land," to the Palestinians, and denounced "all forms of American capitalist plans for a settlement and liquidation of the Palestinian revolution." There was no reference to reconvening the Geneva conference.

In talks with Mr. Brezhnev, President Assad has vigorously defended Syrian intervention in the Lebanese civil war. He said his action was prompted solely by humanitarian motives and had succeeded in ending the bloodshed and rescuing Lebanon from its own destruction.

He also claimed to have saved the Palestinian resistance movement from being destroyed. President Assad avoided the sore subject of Syrian assaults on Palestinian camps

American news agencies deny bias

Florence, April 20.—The two

American news agencies, Associated Press and United Press International, have rejected accusations of systematic distortion of news sent to Latin America.

The accusations came in a paper prepared by Unesco for an international Press Institute conference here yesterday on the flow of information between developing and developed countries.

The paper quoted unnamed researchers as saying the control of news flow into Western America was "dominated by United States wire services that systematically distort, through selection and manipulation, the image of the world outside to the Latin Americans through their papers."

Mr. John Koehler, Associated Press general executive, said: "It can be blankly stated that we are not doing so badly as the Unesco document accuses us," he said, twelve of the UPI's 18 Latin American bureaus were run by Latin Americans and more than half of UPI reports going to Latin America were from the region itself.

He made a distinction between news and propaganda. One way of closing the information gap between developed and developing countries was closer cooperation between national and global news agencies, he said.

The three-day Unesco conference of delegates from some 30 countries has shown a division between journalists from the Soviet block and developing countries, led by Tunisia, Algeria and Libya, who said news media should serve state interests, and others from the United States, Japan, West Europe, Iran and Australia, who said the press should be free from government control.

Senior German Orzes, editor of the newspaper *El Caribe*, in the Dominican Republic, said as a subscriber he had not found the American agencies responsible for deliberate distortion.

Most Latin American governments are not only adversaries but enemies of the press," he said. As chairman of today's main session, Senior Orzes criticized the governmental oratory of speakers at the opening.

Dr. Louis Alberto Sole, of Uruguay, director-general of the Inter-American Association of Broadcasters, said civilization could not progress "if we only manage to increase the circulation of news prepared by non-democratic governments with no respect for human rights." Lack of freedom of expression was a result of the desire of governments to control public opinion to further their own interests.

Dr. Sole said news should circulate with absolute freedom. He urged Unesco accorded with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and promote the existence of multiple international news agencies, free from government influence.

Mr. Amir Taheri, editor-in-chief of the Iranian newspaper *Kayhan*, said some Third World countries did not allow in foreign journalists and even kept their population figures secret. "We must realize that, in some countries, governments do not want to inform their own people, let alone others," he said.

"We should not allow countries to propagate the idea that there is nothing wrong with them and to blame everything on the foreign press," he said.

Mr. Hamed Barada, a Moroccan working for the weekly *Jeune Afrique*, said a genuine journalist was moved by the desire to tell the truth.

"Some Third World countries revolt against the alleged domination of the Western mass media because they do not want to publish reports of torture or repression by Amnesty International," Mr. Barada said.

"I do not think we should point an accusing finger at our colleagues from the Western press."

Mr. Mustapha Dabaj, of the Arab Revolution News Agency of Libya, said the Third World's true voice did not reach developed countries and a new information system must be created.

"For a long time the Third World has paid dearly for the economic and industrial confrontation between developing and developed countries," he said. The quality of information from Western media was poor and had not contributed to the development of Africa.—Reuters.

Junta acts against family of dead banker

Co-operative

Vladivostok, April 20

Existence of

Yugoslav

investments

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Law Report April 20 1977

Court of Appeal

Publicity seekers must take rough with the smooth

Woodward and Others v Hutchins and Others
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Bridge

[Judgments delivered April 19]

Pop singers who sought and welcomed publicity of every kind were not to be entitled to an interlocutory injunction, pending the trial of an action for alleged breach of confidence, to restrain their former press photographers from publishing in the *Daily Mirror* the remaining articles in a series about their private affairs after their employment with them had been terminated. The balance of convenience in such a case was on the side of allowing the series to go on.

The court of Appeal discharged an interim injunction granted by the Master of the Rolls in chambers earlier in the year, and allowed the *Daily Mirror* to publish the remaining articles in the series about the private affairs of the pop singers. The court was divided 2-1. Lord Denning and Lord Justice Bridge were in the majority, Lord Justice Lawton dissenting.

The case arose from a series of articles in the *Daily Mirror* about the private lives of the pop singers. The articles were written by a former press photographer who had been employed by the *Daily Mirror* and had taken photographs of the singers in their private lives. The singers sought an injunction to prevent the publication of the articles, claiming that they were in breach of confidence.

The court of Appeal considered the balance of convenience. Lord Denning and Lord Justice Bridge considered that the balance was in favour of allowing the articles to be published. They considered that the singers had sought publicity and that the public had a right to know about their private lives. Lord Justice Lawton considered that the balance was in favour of allowing the injunction to remain in place.

The court of Appeal also considered the issue of damages. Lord Denning and Lord Justice Bridge considered that the singers were entitled to damages for the breach of confidence. Lord Justice Lawton considered that the singers were not entitled to damages.

The court of Appeal also considered the issue of costs. Lord Denning and Lord Justice Bridge considered that the singers were entitled to costs. Lord Justice Lawton considered that the singers were not entitled to costs.

their advantage they could not claim if a servant or employee was persuaded that there was another side to the public interest that it should be made known.

At all events there were no grounds for the court to grant an injunction restraining the publication of the material said to show the other side of the picture so that the public could know both sides of the matter. Therefore, on the ground of breach of confidence, the court should not go to the length of granting an injunction.

Furthermore, it would be most difficult for Mr Hutchins, or the newspaper, or any court to know the extent and effect of the injunction, what was in it, and whether it was being obeyed. As Lord Justice Bridge had pointed out, one of the group might have attended a ball at which all present were told that the injunction was in force. Such information would be in the public domain, and the court would be unable to enforce the injunction.

In a case like the present, it was not the public interest that the truth should be told, if it be the truth; and it was not the public interest that the truth should be told, if it be the truth; and it was not the public interest that the truth should be told, if it be the truth.

The appeal should be allowed and the injunction discharged. The court considered that the singers had sought publicity and that the public had a right to know about their private lives. The court also considered that the balance of convenience was in favour of allowing the articles to be published.

The court of Appeal also considered the issue of damages. Lord Denning and Lord Justice Bridge considered that the singers were entitled to damages for the breach of confidence. Lord Justice Lawton considered that the singers were not entitled to damages.

The court of Appeal also considered the issue of costs. Lord Denning and Lord Justice Bridge considered that the singers were entitled to costs. Lord Justice Lawton considered that the singers were not entitled to costs.



Go west for 'village' life

On Richmond Green in summer on a Saturday afternoon, you might imagine yourself in eighteenth-century England. Behind the white-clad cricketers on the green itself, the sun shines on the serene and mellow elegance of Georgian houses; heat, distance and the surrounding trees muffle the sound of cricket playing, and only the crack of bat on ball sounds sharply in the summer stillness. Until, that is, the next aeroplane goes over.

It would be reasonable to assume, after hearing that (though the verb to hear does less than justice to the effect of that intolerable volume of noise), that in west London life in general and property values in particular are dominated by the Heathrow flight path. But the assumption would be wrong. Parity this is because the aeroplanes are so low by the time they come in along the Lower Richmond Road that the noise is concentrated along a narrow ribbon of misery. Thus although an acquaintance of mine who lives just the other side of the river, Grove Park, finds his garden virtually unusable in summer, a friend a mile to the south of the flight path, on Richmond Hill, hears nothing; and nor do I, although I live little more than a mile north of it, on Chiswick High Road.

Is this, then, an argument for depressed house prices in Grove Park and along the Lower Richmond Road? Well no, apparently not. It seems that people work on the assumption that either they can live with that volume of noise or they cannot; and if they find it quite intolerable, then £2,000 off the price of a house of £5,000, or £10,000, will not make it any less so. Given a bad slump in demand, of course, prices in this area would fall faster than elsewhere; but for all the slowness of the housing market over the past three years, there has not been a serious setback in west London.

It seems, however, to be a corollary of the relative stability of values in the

area, through the difficult years, that prices are not now picking up as fast as they are elsewhere. Of course the pattern varies according to the area, and in west London, to perhaps a greater extent than anywhere else in the metropolis, areas are graded by desirability into the most minute subdivisions. Thus the estate agents recognize six separate "villages" within Fulham alone, ranging from the big houses and gardens of Hurlingham (at £30,000-plus) to the "aristocrats' cottages" (read two up, two down, at around £16,000) in the centre of the area.

Further out there is, say, the striking contrast between the greenery and mellowed Victorian of the first-estate garden suburb Bedford Park (where prices range to £60,000), and just a few hundred yards down the road, the bleak wastes of proletarian Acton. The area is very much the classic of Acton, which is classified as Bedford Park, that the area has spread, that the boundaries are becoming less distinct.

Well, it's true that there are roads to the periphery of the area where the "right thing" has been done—the right thing, these days, being careful restoration, rather than outright modernization. The area is very much the classic of Acton, which is classified as Bedford Park, that the area has spread, that the boundaries are becoming less distinct.

There is still some scope for buyers on such a proposition: they don't trust builders, they don't trust building costs, and they reckon that the hassle of fighting for the grants available from the local councils is more trouble than it is worth. So houses coming on to the market at, perhaps, £25,000, with, say, no modern bathrooms (there are hardly any with no bath-

rooms at all), no damp proofing, and no central heating, are difficult to move, even when (as in the case of some Bedford Park properties) they come endowed with what is these days a big selling point, plenty of garden.

That sort of house, however, is likely to provide much more scope for restoration (and presumably at some point for resale at a handsome profit) than the variety still flooding on to the market, which has been used for multiple occupation. With these houses (which sell at between £20,000 and £30,000) there are two problems. In the first place they have already been "carved up" as one agent rather sadly puts it—into bedsitters and flats; and restoring them to their former glory can be all but impossible. In the second, they are often situated in areas where multiple occupation is still very much the rule.

And that, almost by definition, apparently, means seedy areas: areas where you would not want to walk more than a hundred yards from the bus stop to your front door for fear of being hit over the head or having your handbag snatched. Large parts of Hammer-smith come into this category, so they tell me; but I have walked through that part of the world often enough, and never had the slightest cause for anxiety.

The big advantage of Hammer-smith, of course, is that it is very well served for transport: farther out commuters have to content themselves with the elderly and stately District Line—unless they are prepared to live in archetypal suburbia on a green and first floor, almost certainly, they will go that far to find modern property other than the occasional development of now unfashionable ("all those stairs!") town houses. For there is no new building further in—except, as an agent in Richmond says, for car parks.

A. M. Gleeson

KNIGHTSBRIDGE
Sloane St. S.W.1
A newly modernised, luxury, purpose-built flat op. Chelsea Hotel. Lift, 2 double beds, bath, kitchen, fully fitted, large balcony. Entrance hall, Leasehold 120 years. £18,500.

REGENT'S PARK
Hanover Gate
Immaculate, modern flat close to Regent's Park. Fully modernised with lift, 3 beds, 2 baths, central heating, sun trap, large balcony. Fully fitted, large balcony. Leasehold 115 years. £22,500. Owners invited.

MENDOZA
ST JOHN'S WOOD, NW2.
Attractive 4th floor flat in well run purpose built block. Fully modernised, includes C.H., C.H.W., lift, porter, 1 bed, 1 reception, 1 b. 2 year lease. £14,500.

HOLLAND VILLAS ROAD
W.14
Lovely character flat in elegant modern kitchen, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 reception, 1 b. 2 year lease. £28,500.

MARSH & PARSONS
937 6091

Snell & Co.
MAIDA VALE
Freehold terraced house on 3 floors. 5 bedrooms and top floor converted into 2 flats. There are 2 more flats in the building with garden. C.H. £45,000.

MARBLE ARCH
Well converted 3rd floor flat (no lift). In period house. 2 beds, bright reception, kitchen, bathroom, electric storage heaters. Lease 99 years. £14,500.

BRITTON POOLE & BURNS
FLATS FOR SALE
SOUTH KENSINGTON, and North Kensington. Ideal flat—2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 reception, 1 b. 2 year lease. £12,750.

WEST KENSINGTON
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Jackson-Stops & Staff
14 CURZON STREET, LONDON W1P 7TH (01-499 6291)

LONDON PROPERTIES
HASKER STREET, S.W.3
A small terraced house with south-west facing garden in this excellent position near to Knightsbridge. Through road, 2 beds, bath, kitchen, living room. Lease 55 years, G.R. only £10 p.a. Price £27,500.

ROEHAMPTON
An ideal family house in an enviable position overlooking Richmond Park. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, dressing room, kitchen, living room, utility room, cloak, two garages, sectioned garden. Price £29,950.

HOLLAND PARK
An attractive terraced house in popular area. 2 beds, reception, kitchen, bath, garage for 6 cars. FREEHOLD Price £35,750.

SUFFOLK/ESSEX BORDER
W.1. Newly modernised patio flat in substantial building overlooking the sea. 2 beds, 1 reception, 1 b. 2 year lease. £14,500.

LOW LAY, KIRKBYMOORSIDE
An elegant period residence and attached cottage. Extensively renovated by the present owners to provide an easily maintained family house. Hall, 2 Reception Rooms, Modern Kitchen, 3 Principal Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Attached Cottage with 2 Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Informal Garden, Garaging.

LONDON CHESTER YORK NORTHAMPTON NEWMARKET YEOVIL
CHRENCSTER CHICHESTER MIDHURST CHIPPING CAMPDEN

CADOGAN GARDENS, S.W.3
Two large adjoining reception rooms are the feature of this spacious flat just behind Sloane Square. 4 beds, 3 baths, lift, ind. C.H., porter, lift. Long lease—£70,000.

NR. SLOANE SQUARE
Two flats available in a prestige modern block, one with superb south-west aspect, over garden.

HYDE PARK, W.2
Delightful top floor flat ideal for company or as pied a terre. Reception, bed, kit, bath. Lease 17 years. Price £14,800.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
Fast mile from Wolverton Station within easy reach. A Unique Split-level Contemporary Family House.

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948 in the Matter of **ALLWOOD Limited**, a company incorporated in England. Notice is hereby given that the following winding-up order made 21st March 1977, at the Court of First Instance, District Judge, Mr. J. J. CHRISTMAS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator, in the matter of **ALLWOOD Limited**, a company incorporated in England, has been made:—

WINDING-UP ORDER MADE 21st MARCH 1977

DATE AND PLACE OF FIRST MEETING: 26th March 1977, at Room 235, Temple House, 181 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6LP.

CONTRIBUTORS: On the same day and at the same place at 10.30 a.m.

W. J. CHRISTMAS, Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator.

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PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND ARTS

POST MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGIST

Post Ref. LA15003
Grade APS/2 £2,925-£4,095 (plus £212 supplement)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons. The successful applicant will be responsible for undertaking a survey of the Archaeology of the West Yorkshire area for the period 1500-1830 AD.

Applications and further details are available from the Director of Manpower Services, Planning House, Denby Dale Road, Wakefield WF1 1HN, to be returned not later than May 2nd, 1977.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

AUSTRALIA

Applications are invited for the following posts, for which applications close on the dates shown. SALARIES (unless otherwise stated) are as follows:

St Mark's College (affiliated to the University of Adelaide, South Australia, as a Residential College for Men Students)

MASTER

The College was established in 1925, under the aegis of the Church of England. It is now a residential college for men students, with a population of 150 students and a staff of 15. The college is situated in the heart of the city of Adelaide, and offers a wide range of facilities, including a library, a sports ground, and a recreation centre. The Master will be responsible for the general management of the college, and for the supervision of the students. He will also be responsible for the financial management of the college, and for the maintenance of the buildings. He will be required to have a degree in a relevant subject, and to have experience in the management of a large institution. He will be required to have a good knowledge of the history and traditions of the college, and to be able to work closely with the staff and students. He will be required to have a good knowledge of the law, and to be able to deal with legal matters. He will be required to have a good knowledge of the history and traditions of the college, and to be able to work closely with the staff and students. He will be required to have a good knowledge of the law, and to be able to deal with legal matters.

Australian National University

CHAIR OF CLINICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Clinical Science is one of the leading departments in the country, and is responsible for the teaching and research in the field of clinical science. The Chair of Clinical Science will be responsible for the general management of the department, and for the supervision of the staff and students. He will also be responsible for the financial management of the department, and for the maintenance of the buildings. He will be required to have a degree in a relevant subject, and to have experience in the management of a large institution. He will be required to have a good knowledge of the history and traditions of the department, and to be able to work closely with the staff and students. He will be required to have a good knowledge of the law, and to be able to deal with legal matters.

Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

NALGO

has vacancies for District Officers in its Scottish, Southern, South Wales and West Midlands Districts based at Glasgow, Reading, Cardiff and Birmingham. Duties include trade union organising activities and representing the Association and its members in various public services, under the direction of the District Organisation Officer.

Salary scale is £5,001-£5,718 per annum. A car is provided (applicants must hold a current driving licence).

Particulars of the appointments and application forms can be obtained on request from the General Secretary, 1 Mableton Place, London WC1H 9AJ. Completed forms must be received by 4 May 1977.

CONTRACT ENGINEER

With experience in the design and managing of potable water supply contracts and of operating as a team leader with own drafting staff, surveyor, progress and supervisor and installation staff. Contracts totalling £2 million annually. Age 25-45, £3,500-£1,500. Telephone or write for application form to:

MISS A. SLYNN, BIWATER LTD.,
Bivwater House, Mill Road, Holmwood, Dorking, Surrey, Dorking 6671.

DRAUGHTSMEN/WOMEN

Mechanical and pipe layout draughtsmen/women required. Experience in water treatment plant useful, but not essential.

£3,000-£4,000

Contracts worldwide

Tel.: Miss A. SLYNN

Biwater Ltd.
Dorking 6671

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION

PROPERTY FOR SALE

The Cecil Residential Club for Girls, No. 207/208, New Street, London EC2A 4JH, is a charitable institution. The property is situated in a prime location in the City of London, and is a well-known landmark. The property is a large, modern building, and is a well-known landmark. The property is a large, modern building, and is a well-known landmark. The property is a large, modern building, and is a well-known landmark.

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The Cecil Residential Club for Girls, No. 207/208, New Street, London EC2A 4JH, is a charitable institution. The property is situated in a prime location in the City of London, and is a well-known landmark. The property is a large, modern building, and is a well-known landmark. The property is a large, modern building, and is a well-known landmark.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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SUI NORTHERN GAS PIPELINES LTD. TENDER NOTICE

1. Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited invite tenders from manufacturers for supply of the following pipelines on C&F Karachi Pakistan basis:-

Tender Number	Material	Approx. Quantity	Tender Closing Date and Time	Tender Opening Date and Time
SN-4027/77	Pipeline	298 km	3 June 1977 11.00 hours	8 June 1977 11.00 hours

2. Interested manufacturers are invited to apply for the Tender Documents specifying the Tender Number to the following address:-

The Managing Director,
Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited,
Monroo House, Montgomery Road,
P.O. Box No. 56, LAHORE - PAKISTAN.

3. Final tender must reach the Company before the closing date and time mentioned above.

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE SUDAN

Roads and Bridges Public Corporation

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS FOR PREQUALIFICATION

Tenders will be invited during August 1977 for the construction of a major asphalt paved trunk road of approximately 220 km. length along the Blue Nile from Semra to Demara, and a 50 km. branch road to Gerat in the Democratic Republic of the Sudan. The work will be financed by the Government of the Sudan and a loan provided by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development.

The Roads and Bridges Public Corporation requests international road construction contractors who may be interested in the execution of these works to furnish the information required on the "Contractor Prequalification Data Sheet" which may be obtained through the offices of the Consultants to the Corporation. Contractors who in the opinion of the Roads and Bridges Public Corporation are qualified to undertake work of such magnitude will subsequently be invited to collect tender documents during August 1977 for submission of tenders at the end of October 1977. The construction works include asphaltic concrete paving, bridges, miscellaneous structures, and other incidental works.

Prequalification Data from interested contractors must be received by the Director General, Roads and Bridges Public Corporation, P.O. Box 755, Khartoum, Sudan, not later than 30 June 1977.

"Contractors Prequalification Data Sheets" may be obtained from the offices of the Consultants at:

Louis Berger International, Kampax International A/S
100 Halsted Street, 12, E.C. Andersen
East Orange, boulevard
New Jersey 07015, DK-263 Copenhagen V,
U.S.A.

or from the Consultants' offices in the Sudan at:

Berger/Kampax
P.O. Box 1571
Block 7 R 2
1st Street
Khartoum 2
Sudan

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

MINISTRY FOR INDUSTRY AND ENERGY

ENTREPRISE NATIONALE SONATRACH

SONATRACH

Engineering and Development Division

INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TO TENDER

International tenders are invited for the construction and handling over in a turnkey state of a natural gas liquefaction plant with a production capacity of 105,000 million thermal units per year at Skikda.

The project includes:

- Design engineering and preparation of construction drawings.
- Supply of materials.
- The construction of production plant, storage and despatch facilities, provision of services, buildings and roads.
- Commissioning of plant.
- Training of personnel.

Tender specifications may be obtained only by companies known internationally as constructors of gas liquefaction or similar plant against payment of DA1000 and production of references, as from 25 March, 1977, from SONATRACH, Projet GNL-EST Skikda-Zone Industrielle, Tel. 95-57-40.

Bids should be sent before 15 August, 1977, to Monsieur le Vice President Engineering & Développement SONATRACH, 10, Rue du Sahara, Hydra, Algiers.

They should be placed in two envelopes, the inner one of which should be marked "OFFRE GNL-EST-SOUMISSION-CONFIDENTIELLE-NE PAS OUVRIR"

The usual tender of four clear days will be required for examination.

21st April, 1977.

Witness: K. F. C. Baker, Notary Public.

Each of the above bonds when presented at the office of M. M. Boukhalil, Secretary for the Ministry of Industry and Energy, dated 15 November, 1977, and all subsequent coupons, otherwise the amount of the bonds must be deposited with the Ministry of Industry and Energy.

21st April, 1977.

Witness: K. F. C. Baker, Notary Public.

Each of the above bonds when presented at the office of M. M. Boukhalil, Secretary for the Ministry of Industry and Energy, dated 15 November, 1977, and all subsequent coupons, otherwise the amount of the bonds must be deposited with the Ministry of Industry and Energy.

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21st April, 1977.

Witness: K. F



La creme de la creme Opportunities

-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.



Private Secretary to M.D.

Wiltshire c. £4,000

The Managing Director of this major international company seeks a highly competent and experienced private secretary. The job offers a wide variety of work experience as, apart from his many Board activities, the Managing Director undertakes a varied and intensive programme of business activities at home and abroad. Thus systematic planning and preparation feature prominently in his private secretary's work and can involve contact with many senior industrial and public figures.

Naturally, at this level, you will also expect to exercise considerable initiative and influence in day-to-day business matters. Confidentiality and high technical skills (120/60) are, of course, essential. The high level of responsibility will attract graduate-calibre candidates who will enjoy ample scope for organisational ability, numeracy and business involvement. You must have at least five years' similar experience at Board or senior management level.

Salary is negotiable and there are full fringe benefits including assistance with relocation.

(Ref: G21077)

REPLIES will be forwarded direct, unopened and in confidence to the client unless addressed to our Security Manager listing companies to which they may not be sent. They should include comprehensive career details, not refer to previous correspondence with P.A. and quote the reference on the envelope.

PA Advertising

Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE. Tel: 01-235 6060 Telex: 27874

Secretary to the Managing Director of British Olivetti

We are seeking a resourceful, personable Secretary for the Managing Director of this successful business company. Candidates should have first class shorthand and typing, proven administrative skills and have experience of working as a P.A. at senior management level. It is essential that you must be a native English speaker. The Managing Director travels frequently.

OUTSTANDING OFFERS ARE CONVENTIONALLY LOCATED IN BERKELEY SQUARE AND ARE BEING OFFERED AT A SPECIAL PRICE OF £4,000 PER ANNUM. Please telephone Mr. Harding, 025 5807, or write to him at British Olivetti, 30 Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

olivetti

LOOK NO FURTHER!

American Mining Company's London Office, modern, small, friendly, comfortable, 5 minutes Victoria, 1 minute St James's Park seeks young Secretary/Assistant for International Iron Ore Sales Manager. Good secretarial skills and plenty of initiative essential. Opportunities for advancement if you are intelligent, enthusiastic and energetic.

EXCELLENT SALARY AND FREE LUNCHES

Please phone 01-839 5571 ext. 12

Secretarial Assistant c. £4,000

Luxury Mayfair Offices

If you are aged 25-34 and would enjoy running a small office, this is an ideal opportunity for you. Trading with overseas clients our company requires ability to use telex as well as good shorthand-typing. An ideal 'own boss' situation (ref. B.47)

Chairman's P.A. (no S/H) to £3,600

Mayfair

A smart attractive and intelligent candidate (25-35). Used to working with senior people in the business world is required to assist the Chairman in the social and administrative functions associated with the running of a large public retail group. Good typing - luxury offices. (ref. A.48)

Director's Sec. P.A. £3,500 Neg. Hammersmith

Our client offers the opportunity of using your initiative and organisational ability within the informal friendly environment of their London Sales Office. Those with good secretarial skills, the ability to converse and compose correspondence in German, French (or both) and a responsible outlook will suit. (ref. A.49)

Reed Executive Secretaries

The Selection Consultants for Top Secretaries

Dunbarton House, 68 Oxford St, London W1N 8UA Tel: 01-636 3333.

SECRETARY SIMPSON (PICCADILLY) LTD.

will shortly have a vacancy for Secretary to the Finance Director. The successful applicant will have good secretarial skills and experience in the financial or legal fields would be an advantage. Good salary and excellent conditions of employment, including 25 per cent discount on personal purchases. Subsidised luncheon facilities, 4 weeks holiday p.a. Pension and group BUPA schemes.

Applications in writing giving details of education and experience should be sent to The Personnel Executive, Simpson (Piccadilly) Ltd., 34 Jernyn Street, London, S.W.1.

BE SPOILT FOR CHOICE

Specialising in the more select secretarial appointments Top Type have just the vacancy to suit you.

At present we have over 30 vacancies with salaries ranging from £3,500 to £4,500 in a variety of fields throughout London. (Though we do concentrate on the West End, City and Victoria.) You'll find we have a refreshingly professional yet informal approach to business, so if you are looking for a rather special secretarial appointment, come to us and be spoilt for choice.

Top Type
25 New Bond Street
London W1Y 9HD
Tel: 01-493 1155/0606

TELEVISION INTERNATIONAL LIMITED CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY £3,400

This is an opportunity for a mature and responsible Secretary, aged 25 plus, to become part of the small, busy Administration Team of the largest Television Facilities Company in Europe. Based in pleasant West End offices, the successful applicant will have first-class secretarial skills, together with initiative and common sense, and a professional attitude in dealing with clients. A knowledge of foreign languages would be advantageous, but is not essential.

Benefits include own office with IBM Executive, 3 weeks holiday and contributory pension scheme.

Please telephone Sue Thorby on 01-637 2477 for an appointment.

SENIOR P.A. TO £3,600

Our client, a highly successful service oriented company and part of one of the world's largest groups, is looking for an articulate, intelligent, able person with an appetite for pressure and a sense of responsibility to work in the vital Commercial/ New Business Department. The emphasis is clearly on administrative efficiency and flexibility, requiring good secretarial skills, although most of the typing will be delegated. The office is spacious and the atmosphere is lively and informal. Fringe benefits include a subsidised canteen, season ticket loans, a social club etc. This could be seen as a first class 'stepping stone' for someone looking for a non-secretarial career in the long run, as the company can offer opportunities to the candidate who can prove his/her abilities and skills in this job.

M. E. Cogger, London Office Reference 190647T.

Male or female candidates should telephone in confidence for a personal history form to HOGGETT POWERS SELECTION LTD., Sutherland House, 5/6 Argyl Street, W1E 6EZ. Telephone 01-734 6852.

Offices also in Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, Manchester, Newcastle and Sheffield.

SECRETARIES FOR STAFF DEPARTMENTS £2,950-£3,400

Reuters, the world news organisation, has vacancies in the Staff Department for experienced secretaries, who have the ability to work on their own initiative and accept responsibility.

The work is varied and interesting and of a highly confidential nature. Starting salaries will be between £2,950 and £3,400 p.a., according to age and experience. Hours of work are 9.30 to 5.30. 4 weeks annual holiday. If you are looking for an interesting position in an international environment please telephone or write to:

Mrs. J. Lawton, REUTERS, 85 Fleet St., London EC4A 4AJ. Telephone: 01-353 6060, ext. 262.

BI-LINGUAL (English/French) Secretary

Required for Managing Director of international drinks company marketing such famous brands as PERNOD, BISQUIT, GUZZE and a selection of fine wines. Applicants (aged 25+) should have impeccable shorthand and typing skills in both languages (with English as the mother-tongue) and should enjoy working in a very busy environment.

Applications in writing with full curriculum vitae and salary required to:

W. F. MERCER, J. R. PARKINGTON & CO LTD, 160 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1Y 9SE

SECRETARY/PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Young (20-28), vivacious, sophisticated, intelligent and well-presented Secretary required for young ultra successful manufacturing director of a public company with financially orientated background. Must be able to work very long hours and become a part of the team. This is an interesting and varied job which would involve dealing with the Managing Director, his staff and other senior executives. Salary around £3,500 p.a. and other fringe benefits. Applicants should preferably live in Central London.

Write to BOX 1052 J. THE TIMES giving full details of age, qualifications and experience, and also enclosing a recent photograph.

SECRETARY up to £3,750

British Gas are looking for a mature Secretary with a good general education and preferably also a knowledge of legal terminology. Good typing speeds from shorthand and ability work from audio tape are essential requirements.

The person appointed will be working for the Senior Assistant Legal Adviser in the Purchasing Department of our Economic Planning Division.

The work involves providing a comprehensive secretarial service including dealing with correspondence and telephone enquiries, maintaining diary appointments and making travel arrangements.

Salary will be in the range £2,381-£2,981 plus £458 Inner London weighting and a first rate supplement of £512 p.a.

Please write giving full details of age, qualifications and experience, enclosing reference EP/22210/77, to Miss C. Lawrence, Personnel Department, British Gas, National Westminster House, 328 High Holborn, London WC1V 7TP, or ring her on 01-405 5728.

Closing date for applications 27th April.

SECRETARY/P.A. BECKENHAM - TO £3,250

This post with a leading office equipment manufacturer will fully utilise your secretarial, organisational and numerate skills. Our Financial Director has wide ranging responsibilities and as his Secretary/P.A. you will be involved in all the activities of the Group.

The preferred age bracket is 25-45 and we would like to hear from competent senior secretaries who can show us that a sense of urgency and sense of humour are not mutually exclusive qualities!

Please contact: Brian Kemp, Group Personnel Manager, Twinlock Ltd., Croydon Road, Beckenham, Kent. Tel: 01-650 4818.

SOCIAL PA/SECRETARY

Helpless gentleman holding the position of Senior Partner within a firm of Chartered Accountants in W.C.2 is in need of a super efficient P.A. to organise and cope with his various personal and social commitments rarely involved in the business itself. Salary circa £3,500.

DESTINATION MAYFAIR!

Join the exciting world of super bankers and become the efficient Secretary to a Director of small, but prosperous Greek Bank in London's Mayfair. The work is varied and involves a wide variety of tasks, such as in constant touch with their overseas agents. Salary circa £3,500.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

173 NEW BOND STREET, W.1.
01-499 0092 01-493 5907

SECRETARY TO MANAGEMENT

The Management of the London Branch of Japanese Bank in the City seek a smart, well-educated Secretary with excellent English and ability to compose own letters. Accuracy and reliability are essential. Age 20-30. Commencing salary minimum £3,000 negotiable. Bonus twice a year.

PHONE MISS BISSEKER 01-606 6101, extension 212

SECRETARY

In their Business Development Area to work for four or five officers.

Duties include some audio, looking travel arrangements and accurate shorthand and typing. In return we offer a good salary plus fringe benefits including an annual bonus, luncheon vouchers and low-latestart rates loans and mortgage facilities.

Hours: 9.30 a.m.-3.15 p.m. Office close to Tower Hill Underground. Telephone 01-488 2454. Miss Daphne Thomas for more details and an application form.

SECRETARY INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING

An experienced Secretary with good Shorthand and Typing is required for the Senior Management of a small and successful company in the City. The work will be varied and will include dealing with overseas clients, use of telex, arranging travel, entertaining, etc.

The Company is looking for a cheerful and enthusiastic girl who will be closely involved in the running of the business. Salary £3,200 to £3,500 per annum, plus bonus and other fringe benefits.

Apply with career details to:

ST. JOHN MACKENZIE LIMITED, 10-12 Creechur Lane, London EC3A 5AD. Tel: 01-283 6211 Ext. 3701.

PUBLISHERS

Managing Director of young lively and busy illustrated Book Publishers, shortly moving to new offices in Holborn, needs first-class, REPEAT, FIRST-CLASS, Secretary/Assistant.

The successful applicant will have to work on their own initiative and become involved in all aspects and at all levels, so resourcefulness and personality are as important as very high secretarial skills. Non-smokers only, please.

SALARY £3,300 PA. PLUS EARLY REVIEW

Phone Trisha Palmer on 01-935 8307

PERSONAL Assistant & Secretary

Salary: Circa £3,700

Required for the District Administrator of Tower Hamlets Health District. He needs high level secretarial support to assist him in his task of co-ordinating and developing the health services in London's East End. The work is varied and involves a wide variety of tasks, such as in constant touch with their overseas agents. Salary circa £3,500.

Join the exciting world of super bankers and become the efficient Secretary to a Director of small, but prosperous Greek Bank in London's Mayfair. The work is varied and involves a wide variety of tasks, such as in constant touch with their overseas agents. Salary circa £3,500.

Administrative Secretary

Senior Partner of medium sized, rapidly expanding firm of Chartered Surveyors in Kensington requires P.A./Secretary. A post with excellent prospects suitable for a mature person having a sound knowledge of office procedures, a flair for organisation, management of personnel, and utmost reliability.

Non contributory pension scheme, free permanent health insurance scheme, and Luncheon Vouchers.

COMMENCING SALARY £4,250 PER ANNUM WITH REVIEWS IN JUNE AND DECEMBER EACH YEAR.

Write with full details, in confidence, to R. G. Hunter, F.R.I.C.S., Hunter and Partners, 37-39 Abingdon Road, Kensington, London W8 6AH.

SECRETARY

In their Business Development Area to work for four or five officers.

Duties include some audio, looking travel arrangements and accurate shorthand and typing. In return we offer a good salary plus fringe benefits including an annual bonus, luncheon vouchers and low-latestart rates loans and mortgage facilities.

Hours: 9.30 a.m.-3.15 p.m. Office close to Tower Hill Underground. Telephone 01-488 2454. Miss Daphne Thomas for more details and an application form.

SECRETARY For Publishing Company TO £3,500

Director and General Manager of a major Newspaper/Magazine Publishing House requires a Secretary. Good shorthand and typing required plus ability to work on own initiative.

Please telephone today...

MISS MCCARTHY, UNITED NEWSPAPERS LTD, 23-27 TUDOR STREET, LONDON EC4A 0HR. TEL: 01-493 818

SECRETARY/PA

A Secretary/P.A. is required for a busy Managing Director of a large national group of companies. Applicant should be confident, experienced Secretaries, used to commerce or industry, looking for a secure responsible post with plenty of scope for individual initiative, responsibility and fair. Age is not vital but probably 25 to 40.

The Group head office is small, located at Wembley, but planning to move to Watford.

Conditions of employment are excellent and a starting salary of £3,485 is offered.

PHONE 01-803 724 OFFICE HOURS OR KING'S LANGLEY 01-463 6303 EVENINGS OR WEEKEND.

SECRETARY/P.A.

required for a small team involved with the business development and public relations of a leading West End firm of chartered surveyors.

First class secretarial skills are needed but the ability to contribute to the team's wide ranging activities and responsibilities is just as important.

Excellent working conditions in friendly modern office, with salary up to £3,300 p.a.

Please telephone Chris Armon-Jones on 930 7731

AMERICAN LAWYERS IN MAYFAIR

Partner seeks competent and unflappable Shorthand Secretary to run his office and deal with monthly accounts. Varied and interesting work; legal experience not essential.

Salary: £3,000 to £3,500 negotiable

Ring 01-499 3112 for interview

FRENCH SPEAKING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/PA

International Financial Group seeks a French speaking, cheerful, diplomatic Executive Secretary/PA to assist the Managing Director of the American Finance Director within small, informal, very friendly and relaxed James's offices. Good speeds essential.

SALARY CIRCA £4,000

01-493 7825

SECRETARY TO THE SENIOR PARTNER

The Senior Partner of a firm of Solicitors, with offices in Holborn is looking for a first class Shorthand Secretary. In addition to good secretarial skills, the applicant should have initiative and be prepared to assist in the general smooth running of the office. An excellent salary is being offered.

PLEASE TELEPHONE 01-405 1361 (MISS SCRIMSHAW FOR DETAILS)

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY, W.1 £3,700

We are the Hotels Division of the EMI Organisation and we need an executive secretary (male or female) who can carry out all the normal top secretarial duties. Applicants should be aged 25-40 with top speeds and used to dealing with top line managers.

Benefits include staff restaurant, pension scheme and discount on staff purchases.

For further details or to arrange an interview ring Gail Dreiske on 734 8874.

Secretary for Vice President KENSINGTON HIGH ST.

Secretary required immediately for International Company with bright new offices in Kensington High Street. Must be capable of handling exceptionally busy private office and working with small group of informal and friendly people. Age unimportant but probably 25/30.

Salary £3,500 minimum.

Telephone 030 9167 (daytime) or 937 6382 (evenings and weekends-Anaphone).

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ELECTORAL REFORM SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

For small but busy political office campaigner in an all party basis for electoral reform. Short hours, interesting work, no too important but important. Salary up to £3,000 dependent on the person. Flexibility on working hours. Please write to NCFE, 72 Upper Grosvenor St, London W.1. Tel: 01-235 3361/3391.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY W. END, OIL CO. c. £3,800

A really top notch Secretary is required to look after the Managing Director of an oil company. The job is varied and involves a wide variety of tasks, such as in constant touch with their overseas agents. Salary circa £3,500.

Please call Mr. Evans, 01-558 1101.

7 WEEKS HOLS NWS EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

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SPORT

Football

Liverpool show their mastery against defeatist opponents

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Liverpool 3
On May 25 in Rome Liverpool will attempt to fulfil their 13-year-old ambition by becoming only the third British club to win the European Cup. They will meet Borussia Mönchengladbach in the final. Despite cautious involvement in the three European competitions over such a long period, they have never before reached the most senior final, but last night by competently dismissing a weak and defeatist Zurich team in the second leg of the semi-final round at Anfield they won the opportunity to crown more than a decade of remarkable consistency. The aggregate score was 5-1 and though Liverpool had played many more difficult European matches, none was so memorably important.

The first leg in Switzerland had proved their way to the final, and last night's formal completion of the last groundwork was done without too much unnecessary effort being wasted in a week that ends with another important game on Saturday, their FA Cup semi-final against Everton. By comparison with previous European campaigns at Anfield, it was an almost anonymous affair, deprived of real interest by Liverpool's undisputed superiority.

Zurich, allegedly strengthened by the return of their Sicilian forward, Cucinotta, who missed the first leg through suspension, failed to prove the point. They were no more impressive than in Switzerland a fortnight before and it was Liverpool's understandably casual

face that determined the character of a comparatively quiet night.

For half an hour, the Swiss champions survived their own mistakes as the pressure slowly built up against their uncertain defence. Occasionally they broke away, always to be stopped well before the penalty area. They had only one hope, which was to score early, but Cucinotta, Bosterson, and Risi found the gaps quickly closed in front of them. Highway again pulled their defenders wide, as he had in most of Liverpool's European games this season, and this allowed Kopa to find the net in the middle of the attack. His fine volley from Smith's glanced header across the penalty area, deflected away by Grob in the Zurich goal, was the best of several chances that came in the first half an hour.

The crowd of over 50,000 settled back patiently prepared to accept a largely lifeless game in the cause of progress towards a special goal. Zurich's ambition soon withered, and after 35 minutes they dangled a clearance that Liverpool took an unassailable 4-1 aggregate lead. Grob threw the ball vaguely in Caspar's direction but the surprised defender was unaware of both the clearance and impending danger as Case closed in. Grob tried to narrow the angle as an apology, but Case's shot easily beat him.

Zurich obviously had a numbing sense of inferiority, and one must say that they were so out of their depth that they resembled like prisoners in their own half, contributing virtually nothing and, presumably, expecting nothing. Even when a thrown ball from



Case (No 8) scores the first of Liverpool's three goals.

Clemence that was intended for Smith fell in the path of Cucinotta, the shot merely trapped itself in the side-netting.

The second half brought tangible evidence of Liverpool's mastery. A superb second goal from Case came through the netting in the 55th minute. Liverpool's only chance came 25 minutes from the end with a 25-yard shot at goal that was pushed on to the bar.

Mr Docherty said: "They didn't want to get involved because of the semi-final, and I don't really blame them. There is more pressure about a semi-final

than a final, but we still need points to make sure of a place in Europe, so from now on they play or they don't get selected."

The United manager expects his players to play for their place in the final at Wembley, he said.

His warning came after the lack of effort against Zurich's Park Rangers in London on Tuesday night, when Rangers scored four goals, had another disallowed, and two more headed off the line. United's only chance came 25 minutes from the end with a 25-yard shot at goal that was pushed on to the bar.

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Giles resigns before flames of failure burn him, too

Johnny Giles, the West Bromwich Albion player-manager, will be leaving the club at the end of the season. The news was announced after last minute attempts, by the Albion chairman, Bert Millichip, to change Giles' mind. Giles will continue playing until the end of the season and Albion will not be reverting for a replacement until then.

Giles, who resigned during the close season, but was persuaded to stay, has had a highly successful two years at the Hawthorns, gaining the club promotion in his first season, and then guiding them to a possible place in European competition this season. The draw with Coventry City on Tuesday put Albion among the top six.

Giles said: "I make it clear that I am not leaving in search of a higher income or because of any disagreement with the club. Football, and more so management, are precarious positions. There is so much fear in the game that it spreads like the plague."

"The fear in the board room is communicated to the manager, the manager's tensions are transmitted to the players, the players become inhibited and scared, and perhaps, the fans' anticipation of those frustrations oversteps to the terraces. My only fear is that I will inevitably be consumed in

Docherty gives his men a warning

Tommy Docherty moved into Manchester United's FA Cup semi-final training headquarters at Blackpool yesterday with a warning to his players. With only two days to go before the final at Wembley, he said, "You play for your place in the final at Wembley, he said."

His warning came after the lack of effort against Zurich's Park Rangers in London on Tuesday night, when Rangers scored four goals, had another disallowed, and two more headed off the line. United's only chance came 25 minutes from the end with a 25-yard shot at goal that was pushed on to the bar.

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Expenses and Commission for 2nd April 1977 - 23.9%

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THIS WEEK'S SHARE-OUT
£1 MILLION
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Treble Chance dividends to units of 1p.
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HAMPSHIRE CLIENT WINS OVER
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TREBLE CHANCE	3 DRAWS..... £4.00
24 pts. £40,027.15	3 AWAYS..... £3.00
23 pts. £152.50	4 DRAWS..... £15.00
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Exp. & Comm. for April 2nd, 34.2%
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Neither side safe in tangled web

By Gerald Richmond
Derby 1 West Ham 1

A game which both sides needed to win and neither could afford to lose was left drawn after two penalty goals. The game was a tactical battle, with both sides trying to control the tempo. Derby, under the management of Brian Clough, played a possession-based game, while West Ham, managed by Peter Taylor, was more direct. The game was a tactical battle, with both sides trying to control the tempo.

Unflagging effort gives both sides little reward

By Tom German
Stoke 2 Bristol 2

It was a night of unrelenting goals and goals, a night when both sides showed unflagging effort. Stoke, managed by Brian Clough, and Bristol, managed by Peter Taylor, were both looking for a win. The game was a tactical battle, with both sides trying to control the tempo.

Spurs' bravery fails to earn even a point

By Arthur Osman
Aston Villa 2 Tottenham 1

A night that started in a spirit of optimism for Tottenham Hotspur ended in disappointment. The team, managed by Bill Nicholson, showed bravery but was unable to earn a point. Aston Villa, managed by Brian Clough, were the victors in a tactical battle.

Rugby Union Round world to score Aylesbury duck

By Nicholas Keith
Bucks 3

Buckinghamshire won a famous victory over Sydney at Aylesbury last evening. It is a strange irony that Sydney should travel round the world, play in such far distant places as Japan, Moscow, and Vancouver, and meet defeat in rural Buckinghamshire.

It cannot be said that they deserved to win, for all their four internationals. The Australians enjoyed a great deal of possession and pressure, but they simply failed to make good use of it. A gallant and plucky Buckinghamshire side gave as good as they got.

Cricket W Indies win Test to clinch series

Kingston, Jamaica, April 20

West Indies won the fifth Test against Pakistan today by 149 runs to clinch the five-match series 3-2. The victory was a significant one for the West Indies, who had been in a difficult position in the series.

At close of play on the fourth day yesterday, Pakistan, held together by a brilliant, if occasionally chancy 132 by Asif Iqbal, had reached 289 for seven in their second innings as they chased a winning score of 442.

Test scorecard

WEST INDIES	PAKISTAN
1st Innings: 359 (30 overs)	1st Innings: 198 (45 overs)
2nd Innings: 442 (90 overs)	2nd Innings: 149 (30 overs)

Bedser has a wasted day

Alec Bedser, the chairman of the selectors, was among those who had a wasted day at Lord's, where no play was possible in the match between MCC and Middlesex. The rain was a significant factor in the day's proceedings.

Today's cricket

Lord's: MCC v Middlesex (1.0 to 6.30)
Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Gloucestershire (1.0 to 6.30)

Golf Five birdies in a row give Abreu the lead

Madrid, April 20 - Francisco Abreu, the defending champion from the Canary Islands, had the round of 66 today (six under par) to take the lead in the first round of the Madrid Open golf championship at the Club de Campo here.

Swimming Spitz and Miss Gould swim into Hall of Fame

Fort Lauderdale, Florida, April 20 - Mark Spitz and Shane Gould, stars of the 1972 Olympics, have been inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame along with nine other greats.

Athletics West German sprinter decides to retire

Düsseldorf, April 20 - Inge Helten, a West German sprinter and former holder of the world 100 metres record for women, said today that she had retired from competitive athletics.

President elected

The Duke of Edinburgh was elected to serve as President of the Royal Yachting Association for a further year at the annual general meeting of the Association in London yesterday.

Today's fixtures

ATLETICO MADRID: First division, Atletico Madrid v Real Madrid (7.30)
BARCELONA: First division, Barcelona v Valencia (7.30)

Summer means cricket and

WISDEN 1977

The 114th Wisden is out now, packed full of information. Including: The West Indies Tour, 1976-7. A look ahead to Australia's visit this year. County Championships - John Player League - India in New Zealand - West Indies in Australia. Plus special features: "From Spofforth to Lille" by Richie Benaud, "Gillette Cup Spans the World" by Gordon Ross, and many more.

Available from most bookshops now.
Prices: Limp £3.75; Cloth boards £4.25. If ordering by post, add 7p for post and packing.
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Ascot Stakes possible target for Hallodri

John Connel, the world lightweight champion, has lost his battle to defend his title against Miguel Cuello, of Argentina, at the Municipal Auditorium, Monte Carlo, where the contest will be staged on May 21 by the American Athletic Union, the Rank Inc., the American theatrical company.

Connel, who had been given the right to fight against Cuello with the promoters, whose purse offer was one accepted by the World Boxing Council, gave the consequences of the fight instructions, but with little time remaining.

He bent the effective deadline by 10 minutes. The office of the British Boxing Board of Control in London were due to close at 10 o'clock, but the letters were delivered by Connel's brother and business manager, Tony Connel, at 4.40.

The contest is regarded as action aimed at staging the contest in Britain. This had gone on for more than two weeks, during which Connel had been told that as champion, he should not have to box abroad. Only last week he said he would use to circumstances would be met Cuello in Monte Carlo.

Up until yesterday there remained a slender chance that the world would be able to deal with Monte Carlo and get the

who had been in negotiation with Connel and Bob Fitzsimmons. The Rank, washed his hands of the affair.

The contest was secured by the American Athletic Union for more than \$250,000, which the champion will receive 75 per cent. He might have taken the loss of the defeat in friendly surroundings and in front of his own supporters.

The contest for Connel within 10 months and a half. On March 5 he will fight against Cuello in the United States, and won three rounds. He is hoping that win over Cuello will clear the way for a fight for Canello, the holder of the World Boxing Association version of the title.

Connel has earned enough money to retire.

Ray Clark, secretary of the British Board, who has been a "middleman" between Connel and the WBC, said: "I am glad to see such a champion, though I cannot blame Connel for doing his best to get the contest in this country. We would all have been glad to see him stay out of the control of the British board and Connel himself."

Jack Solomon has won the right to promote the British lightweight title contest between Jimmy Smith and Charlie Nash (Derry). It will

Lindlow NH programme

[illegible]

100-000	King Clippy (C-D), M. McCourt, 7-10-
p-0	Hesgoth, W. Fisher, 8-10-0
4-1 Money	Blum, 9-2 Gay Signal, 5-1 Dolben Lad

[illegible]

Minter's date at Rotterdam

Madrid, April 20.—Eddie Gazo, of Nicaragua, defends the world boxing association version of the light-middleweight title against a former world champion, José Duran, of Spain, in Oslo next June. Gazo, 25, is a native of the United States, knocked out the Japanese holder, Koichi Wajima, in the fourteenth round in Tokyo last May and then won the vacant title by knocking out Miguel Angel Castañeda, of Argentina, here last October.

Since then, the Spaniard has fought all his bouts against the reigning champion, Cassius Clay, month to take the title.

Rotterdam, April 20.—Alan Miner, of Britain, the European middleweight boxing champion, will meet Radu Gheorghe, of Rumania, for the title bout at Rotterdam on June 1.

Miner, who was scheduled to fight Gheorghe in London, because of his European title here on May 9, had to postpone the bout because of facial injuries received in his contest with Tony Danza, of England, in London on April 12. The referee stopped their bout at the end of the eighth round because of a blow around Miner's eyes and a badly gashed mouth.—Reuter.

Horse trials

Hard to envisage anything other than British win

By Pamela MacGregor-Morris

On the evening before the start of the Badminton Horse Trials the weather trapped the 300 ageable 50 starters. Three French riders have bowed out but none of the 22 who has defeated in the last few days since entries closed was remotely likely to be concerned in the final.

Following the tradition of nearly 30 years, the briefing of competitors at the trials director, Colonel Frank Wetherill, took place yesterday morning in Badminton Village School. Afterwards, competitors had their first sight of the course and the hills in the again many times, looking for the safest and shortest way commensurate with the ability and experience of the rider. They then set off embark upon the demands of the speed and endurance phase on Saturday.

The French challenge has been decided to one, but there is still an Irish and American entry of three apiece, though the West German rider offer the most valid claim to the trophy. It is the Irishman, Karl Schürer, and Madrigal, who led through the dressage and speed and endurance phase of the Olympic Games and only dropped behind in the cross-country. He is the individual bronze behind two Americans.

But it is hard to envisage any rider so close to British victory with Richard Meade, Captain Mark Phillips and the reigning European champion, Lucinda Prior-Tinney, who would be more appropriate in

Jubilee Year than a win for Captain Phillips on the Queen's horse, Goodwill, Princess Anne's partner at the last Olympic Games?

Captain Phillips is also riding the Persian Hollier as he attempts to win the Whitcomb Trophy for the fourth time. Richard Meade has always had high hopes of Tommy Buck, who has been the only one to beat Burghley as a virtual novice, and Miss Prior-Palmer, recently returned from polishing her dressage seat at the World Championships, is sure that Kilhalla has not declined since he finished second at Burghley last year.

Miss Susy Howard's Warrior seemed to have a good chance last September to complete the Badminton/Burghley double and will now be on to make it a hat-trick. Captain Phillips and Willy Pattinson will be trying for the double for both of them, having won the Raleigh trophy on the same horse in the cross-country phase. Captain Phillips' horse, Collins has still three hours in the field and is still to nominate the pair of his choice. No marks are yet in for the morning, but it is clear that yesterday's morning Captain Phillips and Miss Prior-Palmer as they walked across country with the words "This is a bit of a mess, isn't it?" about Wideawake dropping dead last year.

Michael Tucker's Ben Wyvis lost the Veterinary Inspection yesterday evening and has been withdrawn, lame on the off-side, and Van de Vate failed to arrive at the start of his Olympic horse Buze Tom Tom.

Tennis

Miss Erskine wins after a four hour battle

Judith Erskine, 17-year-old Scott from Dunblane, playing in her first senior English tournament "for a bit of fun" won an incredible three hours 55 minutes match to win the third round of the 1984 third court tournament sponsored by Robinson at Norwich yesterday.

Surviving a match point at 6-5, Erskine scored second set 6-0.

Erskine outlasted the 14-year-old Surrey schoolgirl, Ake Fraser, to win their third round match, 7-6, 7-5.

Erskine said: "Miss Erskine said: 'That was the longest match I've ever played and ever hope to play. I just didn't take my shoes off and I was so tired, though they were two great blisters'."

Within minutes of hitting the winning shot Miss Erskine was on her feet and heading for the company—in Scotland, to report her progress.

"They have been very good to me, to let a girl who can't play tennis full-time this season because she is too young to take up her place at university."

"They have given me £500, half of which is to go in travelling expenses for tournaments over the summer and the other half to be spent on equipment."

Miss Erskine's chance appeared to have gone at 0-3 in the final set when she was down 1-5.

Even at 6-5 and serving for the match, the Scottish girl nearly threw away her chance. Miss Fraser, who had been playing well, would have tied the score

once more. But two points later the marathon, in which one game alone had lasted almost 20 minutes, was over.

MEN'S SINGLES: Fourth round: 1. G. S. Bagnor, Gwent, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 2. A. J. Harris beat G. Braun (Australia), 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 3. J. Brown beat (New Zealand) Alan A. H. Lloyd, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 4. J. W. Quigley beat A. S. A. Harris (Australia), 6-0, 6-0, 6-0.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Third round: 1. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 2. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 3. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 4. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0.

DOUBLES: 1. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 2. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 3. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0; 4. M. J. Harris beat M. J. Harris, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0.

This week's clay court tournament at Charlotte, North Carolina, will be the last of 12 on the World Championship Tennis circuit. The season will end with the final events (doubles at Kansas City from May 4 to 8, singles at Dallas from May 10 to 15) can no longer be played on grass.

The top eight singles players and the top eight doubles pairs will qualify. The singles candidates for Dallas are: M. J. Harris, G. S. Bagnor, Nastase, Dibbs, Fibak, Gerulaitis, Drysdale and Panatta, with Rosewall, Amritraj, Solomon and Krieger as the lower level contenders. This list is more impressive than that for Kansas City, where some outstanding doubles players will be missing. The women were unfamiliar until this year. The leading pairs are Fibak and Okker, Nastase and Panatta, Case and Smith, and Amritraj and Stockton.

For the record

Tennis

DENVER: O. Benastion beat P. Dem., 6-3, 6-2; J. Borwack beat P. Dem., 6-3, 6-2; F. Kichlin beat P. Dem., 6-3, 6-2; F. Kichlin beat P. Dem., 6-3, 6-2; F. Kichlin beat P. Dem., 6-3, 6-2.

CHARLOTTE: (North Carolina): T. Clarke beat R. Stockton, 6-3, 6-2; T. Clarke beat R. Stockton, 6-3, 6-2; T. Clarke beat R. Stockton, 6-3, 6-2; T. Clarke beat R. Stockton, 6-3, 6-2; T. Clarke beat R. Stockton, 6-3, 6-2.

Snooker

STEEPLEHILL: World professional championship final round: C. Charlton (Australia) leads D. White (Australia) 10-9; C. Charlton (Australia) leads D. White (Australia) 10-9; C. Charlton (Australia) leads D. White (Australia) 10-9; C. Charlton (Australia) leads D. White (Australia) 10-9; C. Charlton (Australia) leads D. White (Australia) 10-9.

ce hockey

[illegible]

FRANKS DENIED

100

Proportional representation may not be as fair as its supporters suggest

The danger of electing Parliament to be a 'dictator'

Ronald Butt

The supporters of a more proportional system of election for the House of Commons have fallen upon me in the letters columns for my suggestion last week that, if such a system is adopted for the European Parliament, this should not be a precedent for Westminster. The subject is so important, and the supporters of electoral change are so assiduous and decided in their cause—for which I respect them—that I do not think I need apologise for returning to it.

The advocates of a different electoral system usually manage to imply two assumptions which are incorrect. The first is that those who oppose abandoning the first-past-the-post system are also opposed to other reforms of the political structure. The second is that the present electoral system is really the root of all that is now wrong with the body politic.

Mr Tim Rathbone, MP, managed to imply both things when he invoked Lord Hailsham's recent letter on the danger of an "elective dictatorship" of the House of Commons. "Where Ronald Butt argues for the presumed clarity of a simply yes/no vote by electors," writes Mr Rathbone, "Lord Hailsham points out how this leads to elective dictatorship" (my italics). I have carefully read and reread Lord Hailsham's letter, but I cannot see any phrase in it which suggests that the dangers of elective dictatorship arise from the electoral system.

Whether or not Lord Hailsham is now inclined towards

the idea of what is called electoral reform is not for me to say. But in his speech (reported on April 5) he cited the Lib-Lab pact as an indication of the "evils of elective dictatorship" because, unlike the sort of coalition deal which accepts the electorate's verdict of a "hung" Parliament immediately after an election, the present pact is specifically designed to prevent an election and to stop the people expressing another opinion, after a "hung" Parliament has existed for two and a half years.

In short, what Lord Hailsham is attacking is the concept of the "sovereignty of Parliament" as a euphemism for the dictatorship of the House of Commons when the House of Commons, unchecked by any other efficient arm of the constitution, deliberately resists references back to the people. I thoroughly agree, and I should have thought that a proportional system of voting, which perpetually produced no majority Parliaments whose groups made political deals after the election, was, in truth, likely to increase the danger of a dictatorship of the House of Commons. For the result would be that one deal would follow another to ensure that the existing House of Commons remained in being, however out of touch with public opinion it had become.

Such a dictatorship was, indeed, the system under which we lived from 1689 to 1832, and we are fortunate in being able to study and reflect on its consequences. It had been reduced to little more than furnishing sup-

port (including the provision of places and profits to purchase parliamentary loyalty, and Treasury money with which to win elections) for the dominant Whig Party. The factions of that party divided power between them and combined and recombined among themselves to prevent elections until the very last moment of a Parliament's legal life—which had already been lengthened, in the Whig interest, to seven years. It was, and is, a fact of politics that long Parliaments and infrequent appeals to the people enable a prevailing party to dig itself in.

Thus, the "sovereignty" and, indeed, the virtual dictatorship of Parliament was exalted during the eighteenth century above the sovereignty of the people, with only the judiciary offering any serious check to it. Yet John Locke, whose political philosophy underlay much of the thinking of the Revolution, specifically asserted the people's right to break their "contract" with Parliament as well as with the King if the purposes for which that contract was entered into were being undermined.

Parliament (he wrote) "being only a fiduciary power to act for certain ends, there remains still in the people a supreme power to remove or alter the legislative (i.e. the legislature) when they find that the legislative act contrary to the trust reposed in them". It is also, perhaps, worth recalling that the Revolution was itself the work of the great peers of the realm, there being no House of Commons in existence at the time.

So it is arguable, even on the principles of the Revolution which created the dominance of the Commons, that the Commons ever chose to behave arbitrarily, the notional "contract" between them and the people would be as breakable as that between a people and its Executive. But, of course, "sovereignty", apart from the symbolic and unifying sovereignty of the Crown as the representative of the nation and the arbiter of last resort in certain rare circumstances, is always an elusive and even dangerous concept.

"Sovereignty" is not properly in any one organ of the constitution. It is, or it ought to be, spread abroad (even if that appears a contradiction in terms). To put it another way, in words from Lord Hailsham's speech: "The advocates of the sovereignty of Parliament ought to be made to learn (the lesson) that the only sovereign in this country apart from the Queen is the people. That is the electorate."

I would add that a House of Commons which can be kept indefinitely in such a way as to frustrate electoral opinion, or which can push through legislation, even of a constitutional sort, unchecked by an effectively constituted second chamber, runs the risk of usurping a sovereignty which is not proper to it.

The House of Commons is

the preeminent part of our constitution yet it ought not to have unchecked power. This is why I would like to see a respected and responsible second chamber with defined constitutional rights, and it is also why other people would like to see a Bill of Rights.

I am sceptical about a Bill of Rights, not because it would "usurp" the sovereignty of the Commons but because it might both impede the fluidity of the evolving constitution (which in a sense is always in flux) and endanger the sovereignty of the electorate by enabling this or that "civil rights" movement to exert its can or that broad constitutional statement of noble principle to frustrate what the electorate actually wants.

Yet, whatever differences of opinion there may be about particular proposals for constitutional improvement, the fact remains that those of us who oppose some sort of proportional system of representation do not necessarily oppose other sorts of constitutional reform, and not all those who see dangers in the present state of the constitution necessarily see "electoral reform" as the answer.

Mr Rathbone begged the question in the most amazing way when he advocated a new electoral system on the grounds that the House of Commons was "electorally corrupt". He claimed that our present electoral method is well designed to sustain a Cabinet Executive

through a reasonably long Parliament. Why, if the electorate gives a provisional verdict, which clearly invites an early reference back to them (as in 1974) should there have to be a "reasonably long Parliament"? May the electorate not wisely say—make the best of this "not proven" verdict and ask us again in a couple of years, which, I think, what they did in 1974?

As things are now, the electorate is deliberately not being asked because the spirit of the constitution is being frustrated. Mr Rathbone thinks that the danger of the "elective dictatorship" is "horribly pertinent" to the case for electoral reform. I cannot think of a better way of enshrining an electoral dictatorship than a proportional system which always produces "hung" Parliaments, which enables minorities to be formed by a process in which the electorate has virtually no say, and which ensures on the eighth day of the week that the House of Commons is a dictatorship. How, I wonder, would he describe a House of Commons which was determined to legislate to perpetuate itself indefinitely? It has happened in our history, and much more recently some Labour politicians have threatened to lengthen a Parliament's life to get their programme through.

Of course, in some ways, proportional systems are fairer to small parties, though this depends on the precise system and how far it is designed to exclude extreme parties—which may be right, but can hardly be described as "fair". One correspondent, Mr Stephen Lees, suggested that proportional representation has no inherent preference for the centre or bias against extremes, but I do not think many of its present advocates would support a system which resulted in a "fair" coalition of extremists.

But fairness is a pretty empty concept in this context. Proportional systems may be fairer to parties, but it is much fairer to voters to give them a real choice of (say) three parties instead of two (on the Blake, or German, systems) at the price of an inability to vote for a clear-majority Parliament? That is my answer to Mr Gilbert Longden. To give the voters the "real reflection" of their wishes that he wanted would need a really proportional system, with a proportion of small parties and the end of the Westminster system of representation. Nobody is seriously suggesting that.

Mr Richard Holmes asks whether I think that the 60 per cent of the electorate who vote for defeated candidates have failed. To the extent that they lack a sufficiently clear consensus to promote an effective party between them, yes they have. But, of course, a wide government makes genuine sense of opposition feeling (particularly when the opposition is

efficient enough to be winning the battle of ideas, which is why Conservative governments are often less Conservative than they might be, and Labour governments are less Labour).

As for Mr Holmes's faith in the 74 per cent in a public opinion poll supporting a proportional system, it is one thing for a sample of people to say "yes" to an anodyne question which has not been argued out at the hustings, and quite another for the electorate to vote for it after a proper debate in the country. After all, the Liberals made "electoral reform" their main plank. If that is what the country basically believes we need, why doesn't it vote them to power which it can do under the present system?

It is curious that, when the present system produced large and clear majorities, electoral reform was advocated because third parties were unfairly squeezed out. Now that third parties are doing quite well, and even "inconveniently" well, electoral reform is advocated on the grounds that third parties are making the system unworkable. The truth is that the present system has produced considerable periods of the three-party politics and coalition in this and the last century. It has also produced long periods of clear majority governments. In other words, it has expressed changing electoral needs appropriately—just what could be better? Which is not to say that the present parliamentary system, because there is.

Jobs for the boys: Europe must take the risk of the 35-hour week

The recent Rome summit of EEC heads of government commissioned Mr Roy Jenkins to prepare proposals to deal with one of Europe's most intractable social and economic problems—the swelling tide of youth unemployment. It is a problem which is easier to diagnose than to solve.

There are many reasons why the present recession in jobs has hit the under-25s hardest in every EEC country. One reason is the lack of contact between educational institutions and the business world—a problem to which the current "great debate" on education in the United Kingdom is relevant.

A second reason is that most employers practice "last-in, first-out" redundancy policies, so that when workers have to be laid off it is usually the youngest who go first. A third reason is that more girls are now competing in the labour market, so that there are more youngsters competing for jobs than in the past.

Fourth, legislative and trade union pressures have narrowed the gap between wages of young and adult workers, so that youthful labour is no longer cheap labour. Moreover, the same forces have made it extremely costly, and in many cases very difficult, in all EEC countries for employers to sack workers. Labour is becoming increasingly a fixed rather than a variable cost. The result is that employers are becoming more reluctant to take on new workers, unless they can be absolutely certain that they will have a continuing need for them. The young are thus having to pay for the increased job security of their elders.

This means that the problem of youth unemployment cannot be solved in isolation from the overall job problem—apart from improvements, important but marginal, which can be and should be made in all EEC countries to prepare young people for work.

So far, it can be seen, Europe is unlikely to see much improvement in its employment position until well into the 1980s. In the United Kingdom, on present trends it seems entirely possible that unemployment will double, to about 2,500,000, by

1982. The prospects in other EEC countries are a little better, but not much.

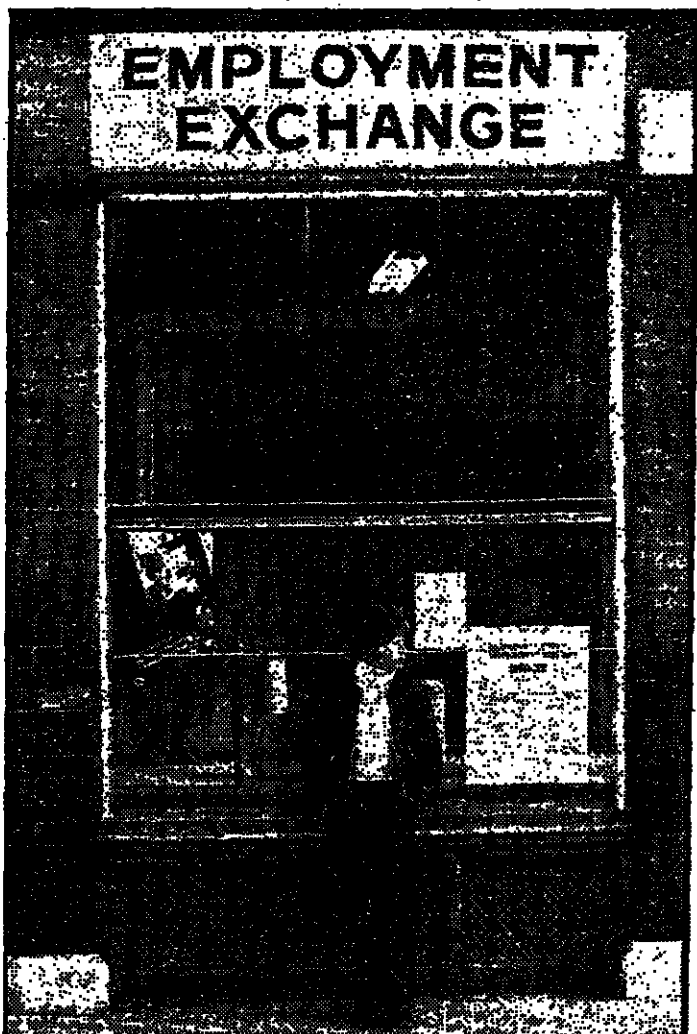
There are three basic reasons for this. First, the growth rate for Europe's economies has been slowing down. Second, the numbers seeking work are rising steeply, as the products of the "baby boom" of the 1950s reach working age. Third, western Europe is increasingly feeling the effects of the growth of automation, substituting capital for labour to an enormous extent.

Since productivity is increasing at an accelerating rate of perhaps 4 per cent a year throughout the EEC as a whole, any rate of overall economic growth below that figure is likely to increase the numbers out of work. Increases of substantially more than 4 per cent a year are needed to reduce the present unacceptably high figure of unemployed, and to find jobs for the extra workers coming on to the labour market (another million in the United Kingdom alone by 1982). Yet few forecasters are prepared to predict that the EEC as a whole will achieve growth rates of that amount, year in year out, in the foreseeable future.

In other words, it looks as if for some years to come there will be fewer jobs available in western Europe as a whole than will be demanded—and as long as that is so, it will be the young who will find jobs harder to get. In this situation, it seems to me that we have to look very carefully at possible schemes for work sharing. This means, essentially, reductions in working hours and/or earlier retirement.

There must be a strong case, in present circumstances, for planning to reduce the retirement age in EEC industry from 65 to 60 for men (to bring them into equality with women). There is an equally strong case, I believe, for planning a gradual reduction in the basic working week from 40 hours to 35.

However, if such a move is to take place it has to be carefully planned and phased over a period of years. No single country could afford to move in isolation. The only way forward, a clear role for the European Commission to try to



coordinate the approach of the EEC countries, an accord with the United States (which has the same problems as western Europe) and Japan.

Moreover, there has to be a clear understanding with the trade unions on two fronts. First, since a reduction in working hours will increase labour costs as well as a reduction in the retirement age—it would be economic suicide to combine such a move with a rash of inflationary wage claims, shorter working hours must be seen, and accepted by the unions, as an alternative to straight wage increases, if we are to avoid another serious twist of the inflationary spiral.

Second, a shorter working week can only increase job opportunities if there is a genuine reduction in hours worked. Employers and workers have to guarantee that the effect of a shorter basic week will not be sabotaged by compensating rises in the amount of overtime. This is not entirely new ground for the European Community. In 1975 the Council of

Ministers approved a recommendation that the 40-hour week and four weeks' annual holiday should be mandatory throughout the EEC by the end of 1978 (the Commission has wanted the date to be 1976).

At the time there seemed little relevance to the recommendation, but now it is clear that hours of work are moving into the centre of political discussion. If the Community is serious about reducing unemployment, especially among its young people, it will not be enough—though it is certainly necessary—to step up rates of growth.

There must also be serious moves towards genuine work sharing, on the basis of shorter working hours. But this has to be done in such a way as to avoid serious economic disturbance. If governments, employers and unions find the political will to work together to achieve such an urgent, though risky, social advance, Europe will have come of age.

Michael Shanks

The spirit of the Wild West has moved into the space age

After talking to New Yorkers who are usually opposed to anything that might make a change to go to Dallas or Fort Worth, in Texas, and find that Concorde is actually welcome. Concorde is due to land at the giant new airport which serves both cities, perhaps later this year. The airport officials look on it as a vast asset.

The idea is that Braniff Airlines crews should take over a Concorde six days a week when it arrives at Dallas Airport, outside Washington, from London or Paris. They will then fly it, subsequently to Dallas-Fort Worth, where it will pick up a new load of passengers and return to Dallas. On three of the days it will fly on to London, and on the other three to Paris.

The object, of course, is to provide a quick flight to London or Paris for Texans and other westerners in a hurry. But the lesson is a deeper one than that. It is that in Texas there is a "frontier spirit" which looks to the future with unimpaired enthusiasm and is inclined to be impatient of environmental and other such restrictions.

It is perhaps to be expected that Texans should claim the largest airport in the world. The Dallas-Fort Worth Airport is said to be the size of Manhattan, and the people who run it speak proudly of its hav-

ing been built for a still undeclared purpose, with an autonomous system to take you from one part to another. It is on a wide plain, far from any city, and there are no local residents to complain about Concorde.

Both Dallas and Fort Worth are full of businessmen dedicated to the free market economy and sure that it is the way to continue making money. Dallas has built some striking new buildings to house the Market Centre in which wholesalers around the world can display their wares. Fort Worth long known as a "cow town" because of its stock yards, now has some well designed and well stocked art museums.

Significantly, Texans, with all their energy resources, tend to see the energy crisis in relatively simple terms. The solution, according to the ones I met, is to push ahead on all fronts—by allowing gas prices to rise and so encouraging production, by allowing more mining of coal, by pressing ahead with nuclear power, by developing solar energy, and above all by allowing producers to make a profit.

This was something that struck me on a recent trip that took me on to Southern California, Arizona, Texas and Florida. In all the areas I visited people seemed to feel

that the future was something to be looked forward to and planned for. In California, I went to Mission Viejo, a new town between Los Angeles and San Diego, built on the rolling hills that flank the Pacific. The first people moved into Mission Viejo in 1956, but the population is expected to grow to 50,000 in the next few years.

This being Southern California, houses are being built in a sort of "early California-Spanish" style. The town is planned as a whole, and all round it there are buildings and other heavy equipment levelling ground, houses at all stages of construction, plans being laid for schools and supermarkets. Even a large lake is being filled, with the intention that in due course it will be surrounded by houses and used for swimming, fishing and sailing.

The Mission Viejo Company, which is responsible for the project—and which is wholly owned by Philip Morris, the large cigarette company—says complacently that so many people want to buy houses that they are chosen by lot.

Local residents say they like the town because it gives them a chance to put down roots. It is an identifiable community with a community centre, and so provides them with something that often gets lost in the suburban sprawl that comprises much of the area.

In Phoenix, Arizona, too, people have been coming over the last few years. Much of it is essentially desert, and careful thought has to be given to where the population's water comes from. But neither that nor the summer heat wave has prevented the city from growing from 100,000 inhabitants in 1950 to 700,000 now.

The centre of the city is full of sleek new skyscrapers, and though the outskirts are often little more than desert scrub, there are also extremely luxurious suburbs like Fountain Hills, where organ-pipe cacti still grow alongside carefully watered golf course greens, and where, in an act of conspicuous consumption, an artificial lake squirts the world's highest fountain into the parched sky.

In their search for water the "Arizona" have dammed the Salt River and created huge reservoirs in the surrounding mountains. They have also embarked on an ambitious plan for bringing water across the mountains from the Colorado River in the west. But this plan, known as the Central Arizona Project, has been much criticized by environmentalists and others, and President Carter has drawn the fury of local officials by suspending federal funding for it.

Peter Strafford

An occasional series on new words and new meanings Presenting a misleading appearance

Probation officers prepare documents called social inquiry reports on accused persons for the courts. These detail the childhood and career of the accused, and then go on to describe his or her personal appearance. At this point the report states: "He presents as a bright/dull-down-trodden person. This on one hand is an example of a common trend in the new sociology: the intransigent use of transitive or reflexive verbs. Other examples are 'he adjusts', 'he identifies', and 'he translates', used intransitively.

We profane outsiders, standing in awe outside the new temple of sociology listening to the mysteries, can see little

need for this odd new use. "He presents as a dull person" does not seem to say anything more than "he appears to be a dull person". "He presents himself as a dull person", or "he has a dull appearance". No doubt we are wrong, and this new use conveys important new connotations, and differentiations that cannot be conveyed by our existing vocabulary. But until the sociologists explain exactly what these new meanings are, we are bound to suspect them of being up to their tricks in trying to hoodwink us with obscure and pretentious jargon.

It is an old suspicion that sociology, being a new science that has not attracted as high academic esteem as it would like, tries to bluff disbelievers that it must be a grand new science, because it uses such grand new scientific language. The proper study of sociology is mankind and life in society. But if it uses man's ordinary language to describe its studies, it is afraid that they will be despised as elementary. However, it is not necessary to use complicated language to describe complicated thoughts. Wittgenstein and Bertrand Russell managed to convey exceptionally complicated ideas in simple and lucid language. Sociologists have in fact made important new insights into the human condition. But their invertebrate penchant for pretentious gobbledygook encourages the unkind suspicion that all they are

doing is "obscurely systematizing the obvious". Euphemism as well as pretentiousness makes them say "underprivileged", "disadvantaged", or "lower paid", when a plain man would say "poor" or "poorer", and convey the same meaning. Sociologists are largely responsible for the plague of otiose situations that rage, as in "the classroom situation". Why do they say "ongoing" when the verb is "say" "continuing"? "The case of" is usually superfluous, and "the existence of" is invariably superfluous. To look at" something is lazy, ill-defined, and dubious, when we could examine, re-examine, appraise, or simply think about it.

Philip Howard

The Times Diary

Backing the losing side once more

To lead an undercover existence and to try to promote a book at the same time is to be in a situation fraught with contradiction. "Robinson is never late," said the man from Harper and Row, his publisher, as we climbed the stairs to his office for our appointment. Yet as we waited 20 minutes for the elusive author to arrive, the publisher confessed that he could not telephone him, because he did not know where he was staying.

Robinson Rojas Sandford is a Chilean Marxist. His book, *The Murder of Allende*, is published next week. It describes the death of the Chilean President in elaborate detail, and documents the American involvement in the military coup during which he was shot.

After the coup, Rojas (he uses his second name as his surname) took refuge in the Peruvian embassy before being given a safe conduct to the airport. But he believes the Chilean "fascists" would like to get their hands on him, and fears the vigilance of their secret police.

The publishers like to dramatize this aspect of his visit. "He goes round with a French Resistance Redcoat," one told me, as we awaited their arrival. "More of a bodyguard, really," corrected the other, conspiratorially.

In 1974, about a year after the coup, Rojas went to China to work on the *Peking Review*, and left only a few weeks ago. He does not expect to return, because he supported the losing side, the Gang of Four, in the power struggle following Chairman Mao's death.

"I lost in 1973," he said belatedly. "And then four years later I have lost again."

He draws a surprising parallel between what happened in Chile and what has just happened in China. "It is the same phenomenon but in a socialist society rather than in a capitalist society. In both places there was a successful coup. The army and the bureaucracy took power. The Chinese working class, lost power."

But in China, according to Rojas's analysis, it was a long

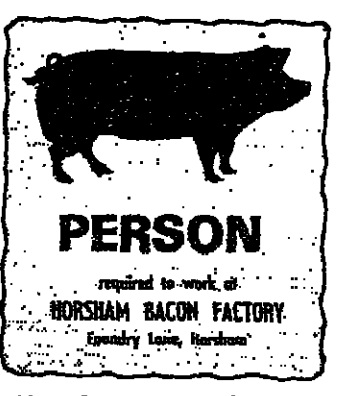
process. The coup last October was just the last chapter of a long drama that began in 1971 after Lin Biao's death. It was not a sudden thing.

Another Chilean parallel, he believes, is in the roles of General Pinochet and Chairman Mao (though he insists on calling him Mister) Hua. Both men were placed in office, he maintains, by people more powerful than themselves, but then proceeded to exert the power of their office to an extent which surprised those who had put them in it.

"Mr Hua is the general representative of the new bureaucratic class," Rojas says. "He was put there by senior people in the army and Ministry of Defence, and by others like Teng Hsiao-Ping. But now there is a struggle for power between Teng and Hua."

But this, he stressed, was an internal struggle among the bureaucrats. The only way to resolve the more important struggle between the "exploiting" class and the Chinese workers was, he feared, through civil war, and there were signs that it was already beginning.

Rojas, though, will not be there to watch. He plans to write a book about China and will, probably settle in Spain to do it, though he declines to be specific. "I don't want to make things easy for the Chilean secret police," he explained, smiling nervously.



This advertisement from the West Sussex County Times illustrates the special problems of identifying those who live in remote and unpopulated rural areas.

This England

The silver jubilee promotion which is likely to be seen by most visitors to Britain this year is centred not on modern royalty but on William Shakespeare. Selfridge's has transacted their fourth Eliza exhibition area into an Elizabethan village, with shops and market stalls given an old-world look with simulated beams and medieval lettering. From the end of the month until September, many of the store's windows are to feature characters from Shakespeare's

plays. Some stiff tableaux of conspiring Romans and dotting lovers are already on display inside.

In the Elizabethan village yesterday an old-fashioned cobbler was sewing shoes called Moccasin Wallabies from machine-cut parts. A stall was offering severe plastic dolls of Elizabeth II and rather friendlier ones of Henry VIII and two of his less well-known wives. The Elizabethan tavern sold wrapped "overfilled American sandwiches".

There were also a group of players in puff pants and baggy hose, who are to be appearing regularly for the next six months performing extracts from Shakespeare's plays. Yesterday they had chosen pieces involving Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek from *Twelfth Night*, and Kate and Petruchio from *The Taming of the Shrew*. A peculiar way to celebrate.

Heal thyself

Three identical envelopes arrived on the desk of the company secretary of *The Times* last week. They all contained a copy of a brochure from Inter-mail Ltd entitled "Cut your wasted mailings". "Is your mail going to the right addresses?" it asked. "With the constant threat of even higher postal charges coupled with ever increasing

stationery costs, wasted mailing is a big drain on company profits. Here at Inter-mail lists are maintained to the highest possible standard of accuracy by our own experienced research team. Every available source of information is gathered and any necessary amendments, additions or deletions, are made daily."

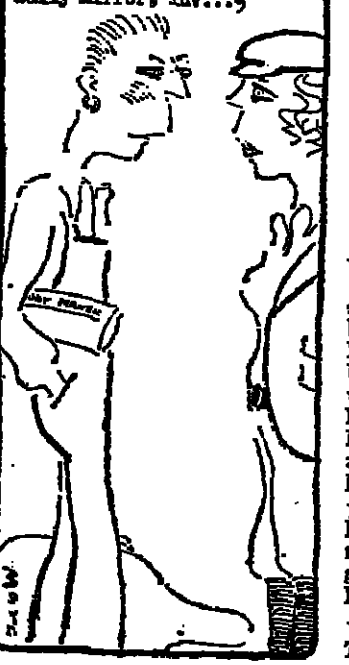
The brochures were mailed to the Sales Promotion Manager and the Group Publicity Manager of *Times*, *Newspapers*, and the Sales Promotion Manager for the Thomson Organisation. None of these people exists.

Two wrongs

There were mixed pickings in Strasbourg yesterday for the eight Russian journalists and broadcasters who have been taking a close interest in the protracted Anglo-Irish torture case, now approaching its final stages. During the morning the Russians occupied their usual seats inside the spacious European Court of Human Rights, making copious notes while a Soviet spokesman filed the uninspiring tableau of British and Irish lawyers, black-robed judges and foreign journalists for the second day running.

The tough-looking Russian team includes a man each from both the London and Paris offices of Tass and Pravda, one of whom was detained by the

GI can get you into the Daily Mirror, Inv...



Later in the afternoon the boot switched to the other foot when a group in the European Parliament called a press conference in the gleaming new building next to the court. The subject was human rights, and the star speaker was Andrei Amalrik, the dissident Soviet historian and former inmate of a Siberian prison camp, now exiled to The Netherlands where he holds a post at Utrecht University.

A few of the Soviet reporters were spotted in the crowded conference room as the bespectacled Amalrik launched a bitter attack in Russian on the lack of human rights in the USSR. Much of his invective was reserved for the plan to hold the Olympic Games in Moscow in 1980 while "thousands of people" were being held in camps because of their political views. British reporters had little doubt which of the two Strasbourg stories would get more prominence in the Russian papers.

The Prime Minister was in his usual mood when he presented the British Press Awards in London yesterday. "I come here," he told the guests, "with mingled apprehension and exhilaration—what Mr Biggs must have felt when he went aboard HMS Daunt."

PHS

Austrian tourism and conference centres

a Special Report

Country always in season

by Pieter Zwart

Austria, like Spain, used to be considered an inexpensive country to visit. This is only partly true nowadays. It depends very much on the type of holiday one takes. For instance there are low-budget motoring holidays with some 780 farmhouses and hotels listed where one pays £2 to £3 a person a night.

The package tour operators have also kept their prices reasonable by buying blocks of beds for a season at some say a quarter of the cost price for the individual. But in the main—with the falling pound and the strengthening of the schilling—it may be said that, for British tourists, Austria is expensive and is becoming more so despite its low inflation rate of 7 per cent a year.

Tourism is the most important item on the export side in the balance of trade. Last year it covered 54 per cent of the deficit in the balance of trade, and the year before 90 per cent.

Though there was a small drop in tourist figures last year—1 per cent—Dr Helmut Zoller, managing director of the Austrian National Tourist Office, is confident that this is only a temporary setback. He says: "The winter season is running well. We look forward with optimism to the summer season."

Austria has a special appeal for the conference trade. It is a stable country politically, pursuing a policy of "active neutrality" and thus attracts world leaders. It has the facilities to accommodate large international conferences, in Vienna's Hofburg for instance, and is looking to the future with self-confidence in building a new Austrian conference hall on the site of the United Nations City which will house the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

It is also a country used for sensitive talks such as the Cyprus conference. Geographically the country is at the important crossroads between East and West. No wonder then that places ranging from ski resorts to

smaller spas and towns are becoming concerned with providing meeting halls for delegates who can enjoy the particular attractions they offer the ordinary tourist.

Austria is fortunate in having an all-the-year-round season. It can offer skiing in the Alps in the winter, and outdoor sports such as sailing, riding, and mountaineering in the summer. In addition, many of its cities have a wealth of culture to be explored by tourists.

In its promotion this year the Austrian National Tourist Office is emphasizing the unspoiled nature of much of the countryside. The joys of a low-budget motoring holiday are being promoted—it is still possible in a village 15 miles from Vienna, Gumpoldskirchen, to sample the new wine in an area where the landlord makes his own wine and advertises the *heurige* of his house with pine boughs suspended on a long pole.

Austria has many hotels, ranging from the family-service pensions to larger, newer hotels such as the Hilton in Vienna and a Holiday Inn in Innsbruck. Indeed there is a danger of over-capacity; in Vienna, for instance, no further government aid is being given for new hotels. The tourist office organizes an annual tourist exchange (now in its second year) early in the season where hoteliers can meet tour operators and others interested in the travel trade to discuss such things as hotel bookings.

The Vienna Tourist Board has responded to Vienna's over-capacity by organizing an electronic booking system for hotels and pensions in the city, where larger hotels have telex links and smaller hotels telephone connections. No favouritism can be shown by the computer since demands for accommodation are dealt with in strict rotation of those needing visitors. Though the hoteliers may point out with pride that their prices have kept pace only with the prices index, they still face high taxes and charges on drinks (for instance service, beverage, VAT and music charges).

These may amount to 50 per cent and one may pay about £1.50 for a beer and 75p for a soft drink. The taxes are about three times as high as in Germany and Italy. Some argue that only the cost-price of the drink to the selling-point should be used for taxation to bring down prices.

Austria is capitalizing on its natural assets, trying to attract more young visitors by emphasizing its outdoor sporting facilities for summer and winter. With the strong competition from other countries for tourists it is trying to do more in the cities.

There are also talks going on between the Vienna Tourist Board and the opera authorities to see whether opera tickets can be released to tour operators so that a visit to the opera becomes more than an outside chance for visitors. In addition, the Spanish riding school in the Hofburg, where deck movements are performed to music throughout the year except in the summer months, is coming to London this autumn to promote Vienna.

The Viennese are realizing the worth of their museums—they have an interesting watch museum, for instance, and one of the finest collections of Breughel paintings in their National Gallery and of Rubens drawings in their Albertina gallery. Outside Vienna the romantic appeal of *schlosses* (castles) and palaces is being promoted.

Few cities have done more than Salzburg to promote their romantic appeal. The city is still the backdrop of the *Sound of Music* or the Christmas show of Perry Como for many Americans. But for some years the tourist board has helped about a hundred couples a year from all over the world who get married there in the marble hall of the Mirabell Palace.

For those to be married in Salzburg the city tourist office will arrange the stag party, the wedding reception, order the photographer and the bouquets, make the hair appointment and book the beautician, and inform the couple of the price-reductions not only in hotels but among jewellers and florists. Nearly all the bridegroom has to do is to propose to his bride that they be married in Salzburg.

Getting results with *gemütlichkeit*

by Annelise Schulz

Inevitably, all discussions on the merits of Vienna as a conference centre start with reminiscences about the Congress of Vienna, that famous gathering of 1814-15 in the sparkling capital of the Austrian Empire, one of the four powers which overthrew Napoleon.

The Austrians say it was Lord Castlereagh, the British Foreign Minister, who proposed Vienna as the most suitable venue for the meeting entrusted with working out the post-Napoleonic political order in Europe. The balance of power decided at the congress remained fairly intact until the First World War, yet it was above all the magnificent hospitality of the Austrian court and the gay social life which were remembered by history with Talleyrand's famous quote "le congrès s'amuse".

In the small neutral Austria of today, people still love this image of their capital as a place of gaiety and merry-making where results are achieved in a happy, light-hearted mood. Much of the imperial splendour has disappeared, but there is still a special *ambiance* thanks to the remaining architectural and art treasures, the cultural events and scenic beauties which attract visitors.

What is more, the Viennese had the good sense to establish an international congress centre inside the former Habsburg Winter Palace, combining historic background with modern technical equipment. This Hofburg Congress Centre was opened in 1958 in the former state and reception rooms of the palace, among them the Throne Room, the Privy Council Chamber, the Festival Hall, and the Knights' Chamber. Their outward appearance with magnificent chandeliers, wall decorations and painted ceilings remained almost unchanged.

Air-conditioning, functional furniture and audio-visual apparatus, including five interpreter networks, each for the simultaneous translation of six to eight languages, were installed. The Hofburg centre has conference space for up to 3,000 people in 15 rooms. A new office wing provides facilities for press, radio and television coverage, film projectors, closed-circuit television, video recorders, 40 telephone trunk lines with 170 extensions inside the building, separate radio and television studios, 50 telex points, sufficient space for exhibitions, documentation, printing facilities, typing pools, and eight large and 40 small offices.

The vast marble entrance hall houses reception and information desks, travel office, bank and exchange counter, post office, messenger service, newspaper stand, cigarette and souvenir shops, and cloak rooms. Visitors walk up the grand red-carpeted staircase—with a bust of Emperor Franz Joseph at the top—to the first floor conference area. The large Festival Hall which can seat 1,200 delegates, occasionally serves as a ballroom.

The Hofburg Congress Centre has been administered since 1969 by a private company owned by a group of large Vienna hotels which leased the Hofburg premises from the Government. The company has so far made a profit, especially since the Government must pay the same rental as other institutions when using the conference facilities.

In fact, the Government is an important client. About half the events held at the Hofburg centre are booked by the Austrian authorities or the United Nations. The remainder are private functions of varying size and duration.

In 1976, 460 conference days were registered, counting individual events which may take place simultaneously in different halls. Among this year's bookings are international meetings of international doctors,

veterinarians, economic consultants, insurance companies, dieticians, and the Young Presidents Organization, an American club of those who have become company chairmen before reaching 40.

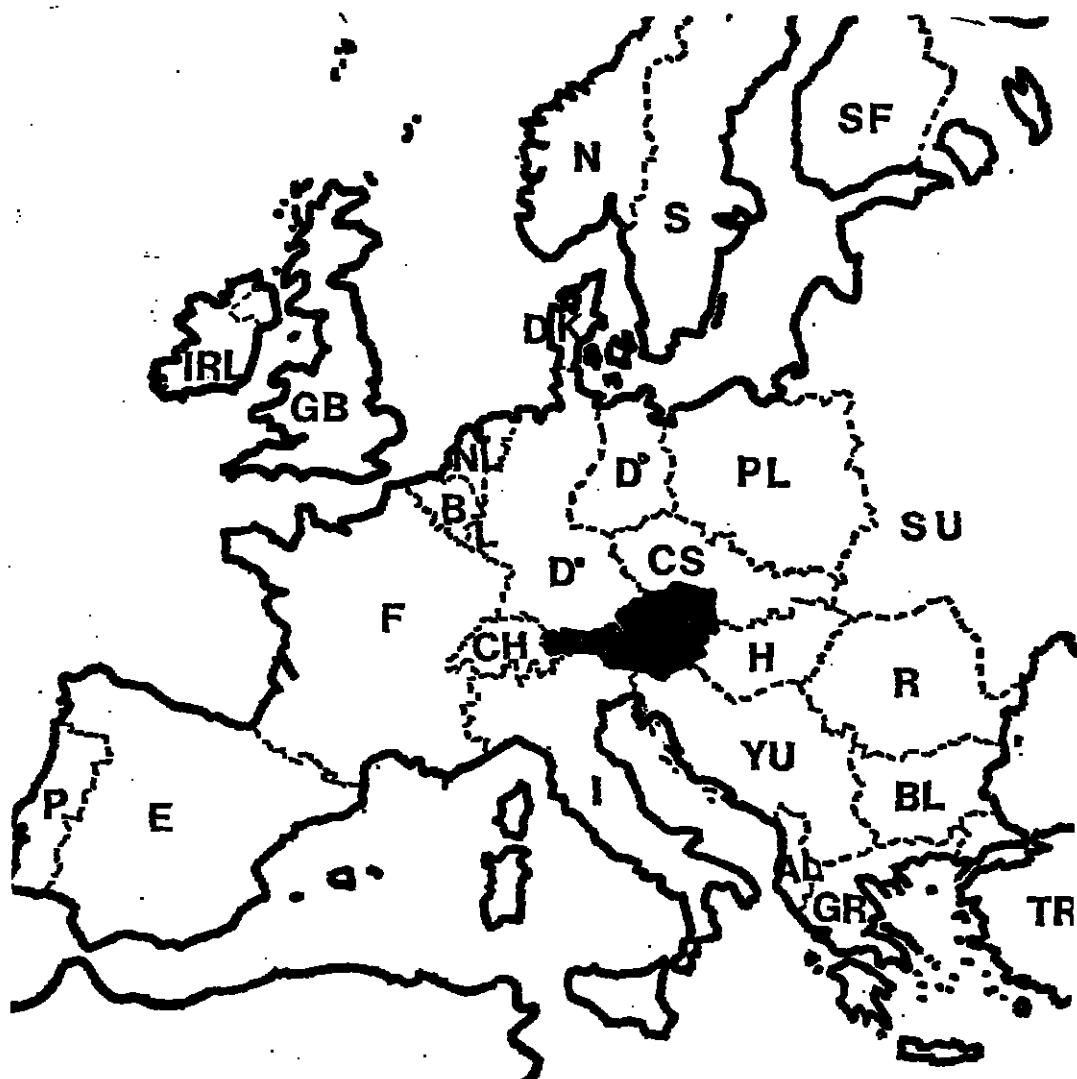
Herr Ernst Stock, director of the Hofburg company, is particularly proud that 1,500 members of this exclusive club will come to his conference halls in May because they preferred historic Vienna to the attractions of Monte Carlo.

An additional advantage of the Hofburg is its central location. There is parking space for 500 cars on the main palace square, but the centre is within walking distance of Vienna's major hotels, the Opera, and the city centre with its pedestrian shopping zone.

The Hofburg premises are not the only congress facilities in Vienna. Nine large hotels, among them the Intercontinental and Hilton, can provide conference space for up to 1,100 delegates. Favourite places for smaller gatherings are several houses of the nobility like the Palais Pallavicini and the Palais Salfeld on Josephplatz adjoining the Hofburg. Palais Schwarzenberg overlooking the Belvedere Palace Gardens, or Palais Auersperg with its lovely winter garden.

There are also a number of modern conference halls in buildings owned by the municipality or by industrial and trade associations. Vienna has its own Congress Office with complete service for 27 different locations with 128 conference halls of varying size, outside the Hofburg centre.

The popularity of Vienna as an international meeting place shows in the fact that congress attendance in the Austrian capital is 20 to 25 per cent higher than in other places. The Austrians make the most of renowned institutions like the Vienna Opera, the Spanish Court Riding School, the Vienna Boys' Choir, Schönbrunn Palace and tours of the Vienna Woods to attract international customers to conferences in their capital.



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Musical tradition that inspires good drinking

by Joyce Rackham

Austrians take great pleasure in wine (they produced about 300 million litres last year), and for the traveller one of the delights is the certainty of sharing it in charming and civilized surroundings.

Vienna alone has several thousand restaurants, inns, cellars, and cafés, and for the visitor some of the most intriguing are the *Kellerlokal*, wine rooms in ancient vaulted cellars, often in historic premises. If you want to escape fellow tourists, look for a *Beisel*—the Austrian counterpart to the British public house—where you can find some of the most modest local dishes rarely listed on menus catering for tourists.

If you like music with your wine, go to one of the *Konzert-kaffee Häuser*, or travel to the outskirts of the city to one of the *Heurige* taverns at Grinzing, Sievering or Nussdorf. They are in the small wine region which bears the capital's name. Where pine branches hang outside the door,

according to a medieval edict, the owner may sell his own young wine of the last vintage (the Austrian answer to Beaujolais nouveau). Grinzing has its own meticulously marked map, with the *Heurige* taverns distinguished from those that are licensed to sell wine from outside the region.

There is a public notice which says: "Drunken driving incurs severe penalties. If you have been to a *Heurige*, and enjoyed the wine, go home by tram, bus or taxi." The No 38 tram is the one to take from the city centre.

Austrians are proud of the *Heurige* tradition and are sure to relate how much Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert in their day enjoyed drinking in the taverns and how it inspired their finest works.

Beethoven is also quoted for his testimonial to Gumpoldskirchner, probably the best known Austrian wine name abroad, which he gave in a letter to a friend during a serious illness, saying that his doctor recommended it as "the best wine for my health". It is only a short train

journey from Vienna to the wine town of Gumpoldskirchner on the eastern slopes of the Vienna Woods, surrounded by high-density vineyards. In the old cellars there you can taste some delectably voluptuous golden wines, whose finest examples may mature well up to 20 years.

Recently I tasted the Gumpoldskirchner *Dr. Lueger* 1973, made from the two characteristic local grapes, Spätrot and Rotgipfler (shipped to Britain by the house of Morandell). It has a lovely bouquet of flowers and honey, and the refreshingly dry finish so characteristic of the better Austrian wines. It costs about £2.20 and is a delicious after-dinner drink.

There are many "wine routes" signposted for motorists, and in some areas they have marked *Wenigleirpfade*, or footpaths, through the vineyards. Gumpoldskirchner is among them. Lower Austria, in which it is situated, is the largest region, producing more than 60 per cent of Austria's national output. Its particularly appreciated wines are from the Gruner Veltliner grape, and also seek out wines like Moser's Aperi-

loner Rheinriesling, fuller-bodied and richer in style. It comes from the Burgenland, the second largest demarcated region, which extends to the Hungarian frontier.

Another interesting Burgenland wine, now available from the Austrian Wine Club in London, is the Bernhardt Muskat-Octonol 1973. It comes from vines near the town of Rust, which is claimed to have the hottest and driest climate in Austria. In 1681 Leopold I made it a royal free city in return for a tribute of 500 jugs of the best local wine. Both Goethe and Schiller used to enjoy the wines of Rust, while Bismarck preferred those from the Burgenland village of Pottelsdorf.

Dishes both varied and subtle

Styria, the third smallest vineyard area, has its vines cultivated on steep, sunny slopes, and produces a wide range of styles from many different grape varieties. New on the market here is the delightful dry Styrian Goldenre Sudlese (from the Austrian Wine Club at £1.35 a bottle).

Dining out in Austria visitors are often surprised by the variety and subtlety of the dishes available on menus in restaurants at many price levels. In cold weather, one can start with some delicious soups, ranging from good home-made bouillon (often with an egg in it) to the filling liver dumpling soup, and the piquant *Goulaschsuppe*, so rich you can stand a spoon in it, and a meal on its own.

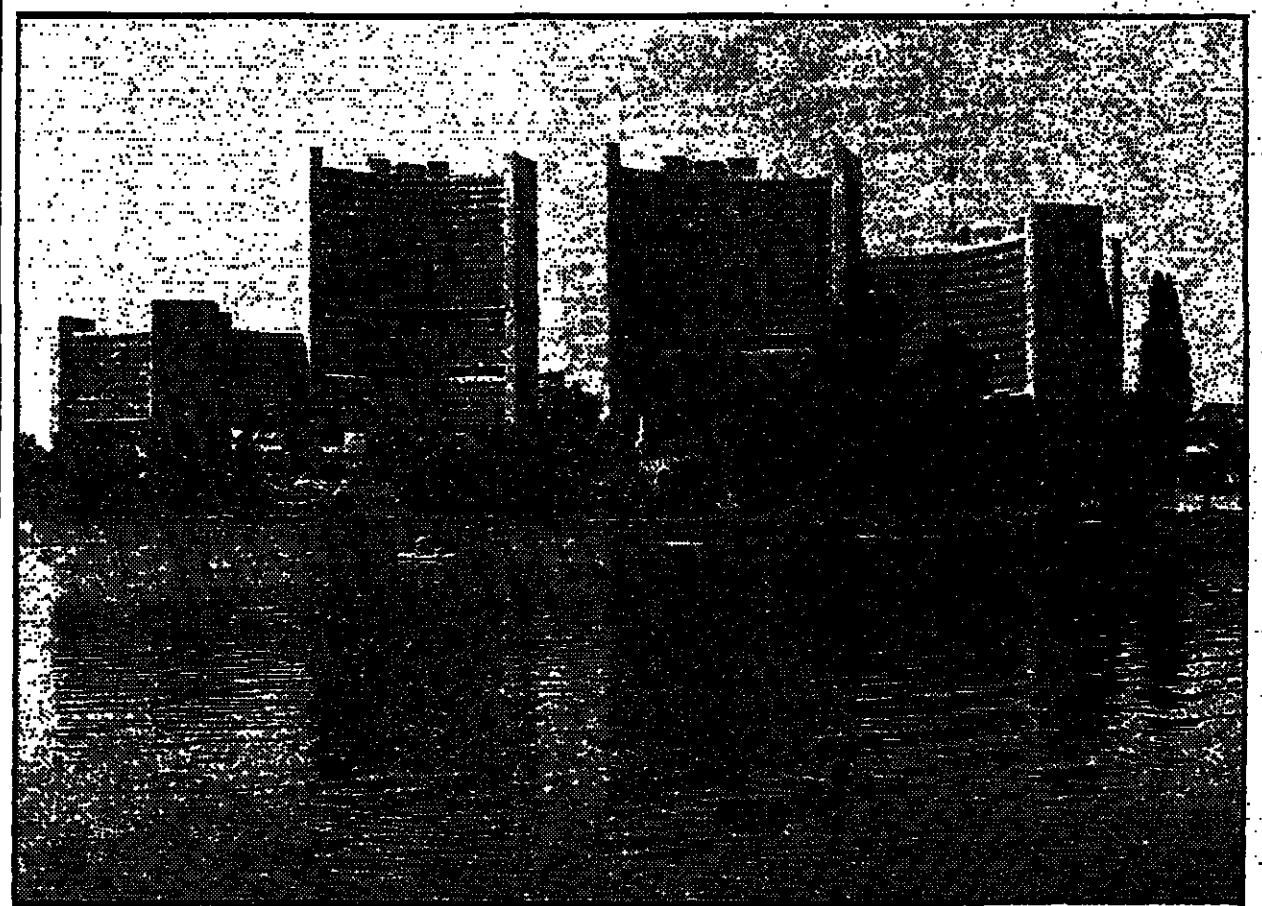
Two Austrian restaurants in central London, the *Kerzenröbel* and the *Old Vienna*, both have their own versions of that favourite Austrian hors d'oeuvre, mushrooms deep fried like scampi, served with tartare sauce.

If you see dumplings (*Knödel*) on an Austrian menu, do not imagine something heavy, made of sausage and reminiscent of British school food or the ponderous German variety. An Austrian restaurateur told me his dumplings are really

a more glamorous form of serving pork (especially croustons and very light", when cured and smoked). They may accompany meat dishes or be added to certain soups.

In the hands of an Austrian chef, boiled beef is even tastier by the addition of several piquant sauces, coffee and chocolate. Austrians like their beef in extremely popular, and so Vienna has a recipe which dates back to 1832.

Although *Sachertorte* is listed with the puddings, cake, which is baked in its own special mould, alongside such glamorous dishes as *Soufflé Rothschild* and *Salzburger Nockerl*, it is probably at its best when consumed with the incomparable Viennese coffee. So proud are the Austrians of the reputation of their coffee, that when they mounted a gastronomic festival in London, they imported Viennese water to



United Nations City in Vienna, scheduled to open next year, will house the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

United Nations City comes to town

by Pieter Zwart

Next year Austria's promise to the United Nations to provide permanent headquarters for two of its agencies in Vienna should come true.

The two agencies are UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) and IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency). Some 2,500 United Nations employees will move into three of the tower blocks now being built as part of the United Nations complex in north-east Vienna. The promises were made when UNIDO and IAEA moved into temporary headquarters in the city in 1966 and 1966 respectively.

One big difficulty for the Austrian Government was that the United Nations agencies overestimated their rate of growth. Initially this was said to be 7,000 employees by the time that UN City, as the press dubbed it, would be completed. Through negotiations the Austrians reduced that target to 4,500. But even that was too high a figure, for the IAEA told the Austrians a few years ago that it could fit into one tower block, leaving another tower block with a capacity for 2,000 staff empty. The IAEA subsequently changed its mind and gave it back to the Austrians, who in turn gave it back to the United Nations.

Some headway has been made in partly filling this void by the redistribution of certain units of the United Nations in Geneva and New York. They are the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs; the Division on Narcotic Drugs; the International Trade Law Section; and a branch of the United Nations Information Office. They will bring 270 extra United Nations staff to Vienna.

The Austrian Government has made it clear that it has no wish to undermine Geneva's or New York's position as United Nations centres. On the other hand it favours a policy of decentralization of offices within the United Nations system. It realizes that the main political focus of the organization is in New York, and feels that Geneva should remain important for matters within the economic sphere. But just as the United Nations environment programme unit is established in Nairobi, Vienna would like a functional grouping of units concerned with social affairs, energy, natural resources and technology in the United Nations City.

Vienna sees the building of United Nations City as a concrete contribution to strengthening its role in the international community. Not only is it more effective than investments in arms and defence, but it is also part of Austria's "active neutrality" policy. Its status is enhanced within the international community and at the same time it adds to its own security.

Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, has said: "We do not intend to compete against any other country by offering space for international organizations, but we want to make ourselves useful as an international meeting place. The

existence of United Nations organizations in Vienna will be an additional safeguard of this country's permanent neutrality, sovereignty and peaceful existence in the heart of Europe."

The United Nations buildings, which are also known as the Donau Park complex, the International Headquarters and Conference Centre, Vienna, and the Vienna International Centre, are situated in Donau Park overlooking the Danube river. This was the site for a garden exhibition in the 1960s and provides a rural background to the towering blocks.

Herr Johann Staber, the architect, has been careful to leave a vista by putting the buildings on stilts. The six Y-shaped buildings thus appear to straddle the park site. The offices are easily partitioned, and there is individually-controlled air-conditioning and nearly all the offices have daylight and panoramic views.

There are two conference centres: a round one on several floors with a capacity for 1,600 delegates—and a hexagonal one with a capacity for 4,000 delegates in its largest hall. The former is part of the United Nations complex, while the latter is still on the drawing boards. It will form the Austrian International Conference Centre when completed in 1982. In addition there is a service block for libraries, restaurants, a computer centre, shops, sports room and telephone exchange.

Each floor lifted into place

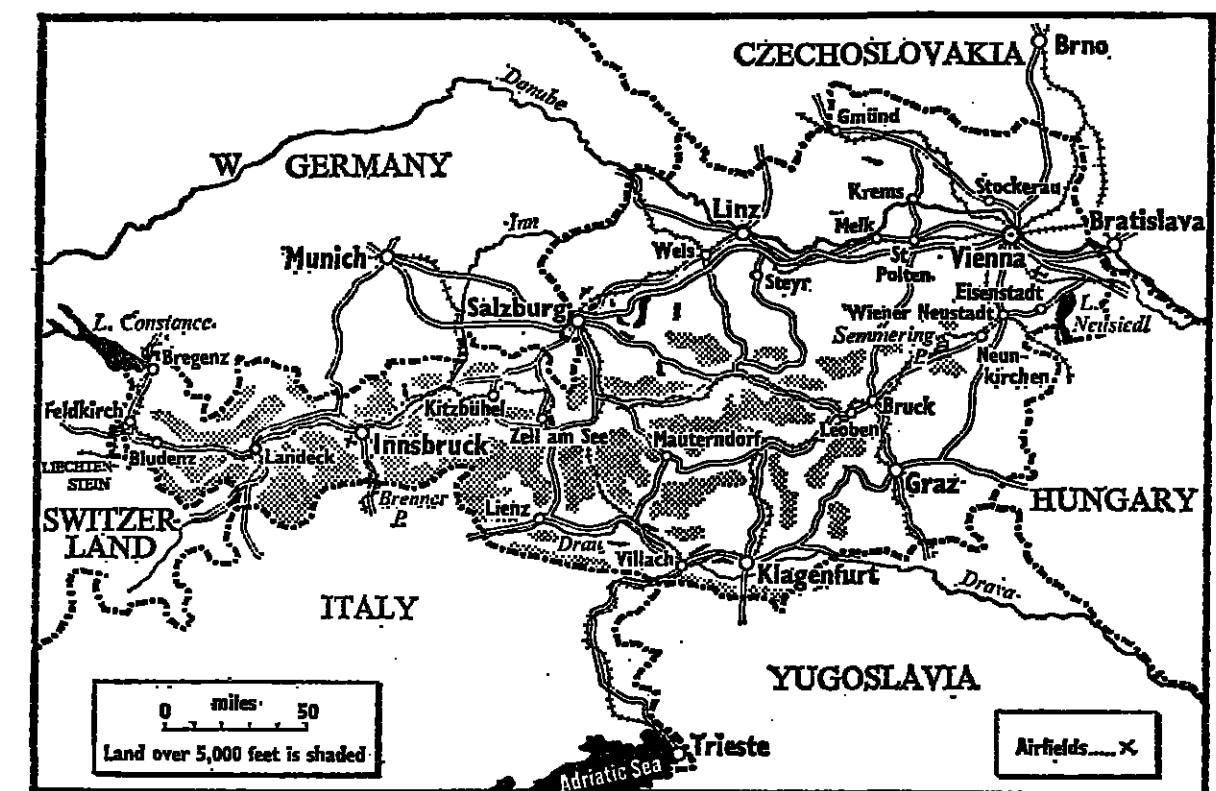
The Y-shaped glass and aluminium-fronted buildings vary from 120 metres to 50 metres in height, and are a feat of engineering skill. The staircase towers at each end and the central cores were erected by slipform method, and with the construction floors they form the skeleton of the buildings.

The prefabricated floors were assembled on the ground and hoisted into place between the staircase towers and the central cores by means of hydraulic lifting. The regular office floors were then fitted in above the construction floors.

United Nations City will cost about £430m to build. Two thirds of that figure is borne by the Federal Government and one-third by the city of Vienna. The property belongs to the Austrian Government and is leased to the United Nations at a peppercorn rent of one Austrian Schilling a year. That compares with the high rents for offices in Geneva and New York.

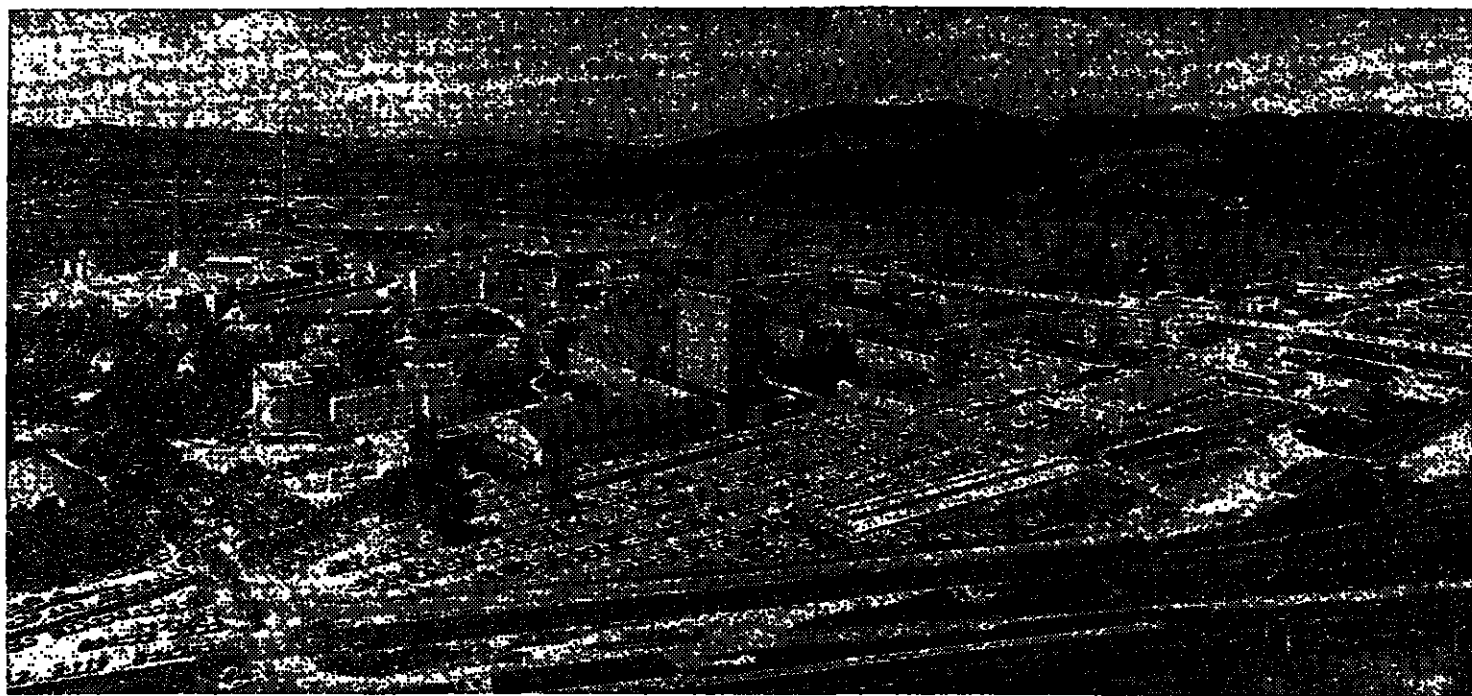
The complex will be linked with new communications to make it easier for the international civil servants to travel and from it. An underground railway to the centre of Vienna (St Stephen's Cathedral) is planned for the early 1980s. A new bridge for road and rail is being built to replace the Reichsbrücke, which collapsed last year.

In addition there will be a special bus link between



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Twenty years of economic sense in Austria —background for the visiting businessman



Austrian industry in an Austrian setting—Linz: the Stickstoffwerke A.G.

In 1975 Austria found itself on the brink of the worldwide recession; those responsible for the country's economic policy were faced with exactly the same problems as their counterparts in other western industrialized countries. Many of the latter reacted to the situation with restrictive monetary measures which produced a sharp increase in unemployment whilst leaving the inflationary situation little, if at all, improved. A side-effect of such measures was in many countries a worsening of relations between employers and employees in industry, culminating in strikes and the adoption of radical political attitudes.

Priority: Job security

In spite of warnings voiced by theoretical economists, Austria decided in agreement with the banking system and representatives of both sides of industry to give priority to securing jobs. At the same time, substantial public funds were invested to support the nation's economy. The success of these measures was noted with great interest by economic experts everywhere. With unemployment running at only 2.4 per cent and despite a 2.5 per cent fall in economic growth, Austria managed, against all forecasts, to reduce the rate of increase in prices of consumer goods from the 1974 level of 9.5 per cent to 8.4 per cent in 1975, while negotiated wages rose 15.1 per cent in the same year. When in 1976 this was followed by a further growth of 4.5 per cent in GNP and a 10 per cent rise in wages, the inflation rate declined by a further percentage point to 7.3 per cent. All this took place without industrial conflict; the amount of time spent in strikes per capita of the Austrian labour force was 1.5 minutes in 1974 and only 1 minute in 1975.

A new institution

In March 1957, a temporary standstill to growth in the country's economy led Austrian economists to conclude that the purely mechanical processes of a classically run national economy were no longer adequate to cope with the problems arising.

The representatives of employers and employees in Austria realized as long as 20 years ago that a stable economic situation could only be created by means of a permanent dialogue between both sides of industry and with a great deal of voluntary self-control. The logical result of this was the setting up of the Commission for Prices and Wages which met for the first time in March 1957 and is almost unique in the world as a means of regulating the conflict of interests between employers and employees.

A neutral forum

The Commission is an entirely voluntary forum in which representatives of both sides of industry are able to put their views objectively to each other on neutral ground with a view to giving both sides a fair hearing. The Commission's own council also draws up analyses of economic policy and prepares recommendations for the government.

The Commission meets regularly in the Federal Chancellery in Vienna under the chairmanship of the Federal Chancellor or Minister for Trade. Apart from officials of the Ministries for Internal Affairs, Trade, Industry and Commerce and of the Ministry for Social Administration, the Commission includes two representatives and one expert from the statutory body representing trade, industry and commerce, the Federal Chamber of Industry and Trade, from the Council of the Chambers of Labour, the

statutory representative of most Austrian employees, and from the Presidential Conference of Chambers of Agriculture, which is the umbrella organization for all chambers of agriculture, the bodies which represent Austrian farmers. The meetings of the Commission are also attended by a similar number of representatives of the Austrian Trades Union Federation. The Commission holds special meetings to discuss matters of economic policy which are then also attended by other Ministers responsible for such matters—particularly the Finance Minister, as also the Governor of the National Bank and the head of the Economic Research Institute.

The power of voluntary action

The Commission did not come into being as the result of a law. It did so in accordance with a decision of the Council of Ministers of 12th March 1957 which merely invited the four associations mentioned to submit suggestions for a similar number of representatives of the Austrian Trades Union Federation. The Commission holds special meetings to discuss matters of economic policy which are then also attended by other Ministers responsible for such matters—particularly the Finance Minister, as also the Governor of the National Bank and the head of the Economic Research Institute.

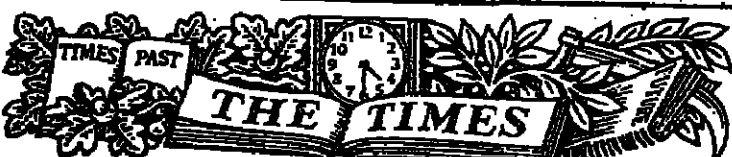
The only possible form of sanction—although this has never been used to put—was for the Joint Commission to have certain goods and services included in the government schedule of price controls for a maximum period of six months on the basis of an existing law relating to price control.

In practice, the work of the Joint Commission is based on the representative associations submitting applications for a proposed price increase or for the go-ahead for wage or salary negotiations. These are then dealt with by two permanent subcommittees of the Joint Commission. Important decisions taken by the subcommittees are in all cases made known to the full meeting of the Commission. The Commission as a whole also considers questions of fundamental importance, particularly when any change in wages or working conditions might give rise to applications for price rises.

When the Austrian economy was in the process of rapid expansion between 1960 and 1973, it was due to the work of the Joint Commission that wages and prices did not spiral too rapidly. In times of recession, the collaboration achieved between both sides of industry in the framework of the Joint Commission supported government measures to protect jobs, ensuring that funds invested to halt shrinking production figures did not result in an unreasonable rise in costs and hence in a reduced ability of Austrian industry to compete on world markets dominated by deflation.

Economic brains trust

The enormous progress which the work of the Joint Commission represents lies in the fact that it provides a platform for representatives of both employees and employers to discuss together their various initiatives, without affecting the duty of its members, once outside the forum of the Commission, to continue to defend the interests of their own particular groups.



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NO HELP FROM PATRIOTIC FRONT

It is too soon to say that Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo have doused the hopes discussed so cheerfully in the House of Commons yesterday after Dr Owen's report on his African negotiations. But their immediate reactions are not encouraging, for they suggest that Dr Owen has entirely failed to move them from the positions they took up at Geneva which largely contributed to the failure of that conference. They now reject, or at least see no relevance in, Anglo-American co-sponsorship of another conference, this time on an independence constitution. They insist that the only Africans who can be parties to it are the representatives of those who fight—that is, themselves—and they reiterate that their business is with Britain alone.

This is not an outright rejection of a conference, but it repeats their old contention—that it is for Britain to agree with them, and then alone, how and when to hand over Rhodesia, after disposing of Mr Smith by means it is not for the Africans to prescribe. If Britain will not (the Africans decline to admit that Britain cannot) the war goes on.

That is not the conference Dr Owen was describing to the House of Commons. He insists that it can only succeed if all the parties are represented, and of the Patriotic Front leaders he said "I attach immense importance to their cooperation, were we to call a conference. This was one of the reasons why I not only saw them early on in my

mission, but went to see all the frontline presidents, including... President Machel in Mozambique and President Neto in Angola." Presumably he is not unprepared for this initial unhelpfulness. But evidently the first of the preparatory discussions that he envisages must be an attitude, with the help of the presidents, now meeting in Luanda to discuss intensification of the war.

The most obvious argument put to them is that their intransigence may help Mr Smith. The Rhodesians may indeed be more cooperative now they see Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo being difficult, if only as a matter of tactics. This is foreshadowed by Mr Vorster's comment that if Dr Owen fails it will not be the fault of the white Rhodesians. Under Dr Owen's plans, Mr Smith loses nothing by participating in the preparatory talks, right up to and even into the conference if Dr Owen cannot stage it, and he may feel he gains quite a lot.

One such gain is a measure of recognition—a British mission of sorts in Salisbury, perhaps a Rhodesian one in London, an excellent venue for promoting the idea that the Rhodesians are being reasonable, and the idea that it is the Patriotic Front—manipulated of course by the communists for their worldwide objectives—who are not. Mr Smith has some success with this line in Geneva. He does all this and yet, as Dr Owen indicated, remain with a veto until

he sees not only the shape of the independence constitution but also of the caretaker regime. Until he resigns nothing happens.

The other advantage of negotiating is to build up credit with Mr Vorster and more especially, as Mr Smith certainly hopes, with President Carter. If Messrs Nkomo and Mugabe can be shown to wreck a peaceful settlement under the Owen plan for communist reasons, his whole approach to politics suggests that he would hope to pin some moral obligation, as well as diplomatic necessity, on President Carter to support him in the next phase.

Dr Owen made a good case for his plan to abandon the abortive negotiations on the Kissinger plans for the interim stage and move to the creation of an independence constitution for Zimbabwe which would so commend itself by its safeguards for the minorities, and freedom for the majority, that the "interim" arrangements would be relatively easy. But it is much easier to draw up such a constitution on paper than to persuade the whites that the blacks would not tear it up immediately after independence, or the blacks that the whites would not tear it up before vesting day. Dr Owen frankly conceded the wall of suspicion which talks and papers will hardly pierce. Yet he was right to say that he had to attempt it. If nothing comes out of the conference, other possibilities may emerge, as his tour and effort to change the atmosphere came out of Geneva.

CONFUSED AND FAR FROM REASSURING

Spring manoeuvres among trade unionists over the next round of pay restraint are by nature complex and even roundabout. Yesterday the Scottish TUC narrowly defeated a resolution by the coal miners that would have rejected any further limitation of free collective bargaining. It would be wrong to hail the result as evidence of a last-minute revulsion by the Labour movement. To a great extent it simply reflects the reluctance of many delegates to commit themselves only a short time before the national conferences of their unions meet and before they know exactly what terms for another phase may finally be on offer. The close vote tends to confirm that the spirit of glum acquiescence that made two years of rigid wage controls possible no longer prevails.

But it is fair to qualify even that conclusion from a vote which had so much of the nature of a holding statement. The STUC is a body which leans further to the left than the British TUC. Until last year, when it rejected a motion from the NUM similar to yesterday's (while simultaneously thumbing its nose at Mr Healey's first offer of conditional tax cuts), it had been staunchly opposed to the principle of wage restraint. The result shows that many unions have reservations, at least, about the complete rejection of a third phase.

The confusion of debate within

the movement at this stage has been amply illustrated this week by the pronouncements of Mr Jack Jones. His speech on Sunday seemed at once a reaffirmation of the need for a continued understanding with the Government and a rejection of every practical means of achieving it. Even the holder of his powerful office has to have some regard to the opinions of his followers, and no doubt part of what he said was meant to show them that he understood their reservations and did not mean to drive a feeble bargain. He probably did not appreciate the effect that his words would have elsewhere (in the event, the Scottish delegation of the TGWU decided to support the miners anyway, against his advice).

In the first two phases of incomes restraint, the influence of Mr Jones has been crucial. The forms of control that he has endorsed have been clear-cut, almost crude. They have worked in great measure because of that. If Mr Jones is becoming subtle, it is an ominous sign for the future of restraint. Phases one and two happened to serve the interests of his own union well; a new formula giving scope for repairing some of the consequential anomalies would inevitably serve their interests less well and be less amenable to his methods of orientation and promotion.

A flexible pay policy, with a norm that will inevitably stand as a mark for all to aim at and

with plenty of excuses provided for going beyond it, might actually disguise the real forces limiting the general growth of earnings and even encourage inflationary claims. Mr Jones seems conclusively to have dashed hopes that the TUC might take a share in determining differentials in the same way as it has accomplished the simpler task of persuading recalcitrant unions to respect the existing norms. By implication, he was also discouraging the possibility of local "kitty bargaining".

In fact the main function that Mr Jones seems to see for the TUC, if there is a new agreement with the Government, is one that would be equally important whether there was a formal agreement or not. The leaders of the movement would take care to keep constantly before their followers the facts of inflation and unemployment and try to induce a mood of sobriety. That is the least that can be expected of them. But Mr Jones even felt it necessary to abandon this attitude himself so as to be seen striking a hard bargain. He presented the Government with a whole list of demands, from a price freeze to early retirement and a cut in petrol tax. It is paradoxical and discouraging to see him of all people failing to understand how such a parade of fantasies must contribute to fostering the dangerous sense of unreality among trade unionists that he so rightly fears.

Paw-paw cure

From Mr John Sibby
Sir, It is interesting to learn from Mr Parker (letter April 18) that maggots were used by "hard-pressed doctors" to clear up wounds in the First World War. These little creatures have pretty steadily accompanied British war efforts, whether deliberately encouraged or not, being reported at the siege of Cartagena, 1741, by Smollett, in chapter XXXIII of *Roderick Random*. They were certainly in evidence in the Assam hospitals after the Burma evacuation of 1942, and certainly of psychologically therapeutic value; we used to run races with our dumb friends. Yours truly, JOHN SIBBY, 6 Haleswood Road, Epsom, Surrey, West Midlands, April 18.

100 years' immunity

From Mr Colin Holmes
Sir, I sympathize with C. C. Aronfeld (Letters April 15) in his attempt to read the government file on his German author—I believe he is referring to Peter Aldag, whose *Das Judentum in England* was published in 1943. But he is mistaken in his assumption that after 30 years Britons go unprotected by the 1958 Public Records Act. If, for instance, he wanted to consult the interment files of the Fascist German expatriates, he would find that his request could be refused under Section 5(1) of the 1958 Act. Such papers as well as the Aldag file are regarded as exceptionally sensitive and are therefore restricted. There is, however, an additional, more serious aspect relating to such files which should be highlighted. Home Office records of the kind referred to here, which are not yet open to public inspection, may nevertheless be made available exceptionally to historians and others who require them for scholarly research. Each application in this category is considered on its merits by the Home Office, who have to be satisfied that the person to whom the information is to be given is of academic or scientific standing and that the aims and objects of the research are of such value as to merit support. In other words, the restrictions, referred to earlier, can be waived. In my own case I was allowed to read the file on the 1911 Sidney

Street disturbances which was officially closed for 100 years, although I understand similar requests from other parties had been refused. In this instance I was fortunate enough to be granted access but, like others, I gain no pleasure from playing historical roulette with the Home Office. What I am concerned with here, Sir, is more than a parochial matter of interest only to historians. It is part and parcel of the wider question of government secrecy and should be considered within that context. Yours truly, COLIN HOLMES, Senior Lecturer, Department of Economic and Social History, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, April 16.

Hawkesmoor's churches

From Mr Jonathan Balkind
Sir, Dr Lang's letter of April 5 does not give the record entirely straight. Following the Arts Council's Hawkesmoor exhibition in 1962, the Hawkesmoor Committee under Lady Kenner were instrumental in persuading the London Diocesan Fund to undertake the complete re-roofing of Christchurch under Cecil Brown's direction. Funds were provided from the sale of St John's, Smith Square, and by grants from various bodies including the GLC. This phase of restoration, costing over £50,000, stopped short of refurbishment of the interior apart from the renewal of the ceiling. The authorities, ecclesiastical and secular, remained concerned with the future of the church; discussions were extensively reported in the press.

In August last year, SAVE Britain's Heritage organized a forum on inner city churches, followed on November 20 by a concert given by The Renaissance Singers and the Hertfordshire Chamber Orchestra. This, various speakers proposed the founding of a charitable trust to help the Rector to restore the church and ensure its active use.

This proposal was unanimously endorsed and the Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields now exist with Sir John Benjamin as patron, a board of trustees and wide membership. One of the most promising activities is the use of the church for performing music: the response at the first concert was such that it has been possible to arrange five

charity performances of works by Handel during spring and summer this year. A great deal still has to be achieved and the Friends need all the support they can get. Yours faithfully, JONATHAN BALKIND, Secretary, The Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields, 10 Chalot Road, NW1.

Pelléas et Mélisande

From Mr Rollo Myers
Sir, I have just read with the greatest pleasure and interest Mr William Mann's report on the new production of *Pelléas et Mélisande* at the Paris Opera (March 24). May I, however, be allowed to make one correction? Mr Mann is not correct in stating that Debussy "completed his opera in 1895". In point of fact, the *Pelléas* we know today was only begun in that year after Debussy had destroyed the original draft, which he considered too Wagnerian. In a letter to his friend Ernest Chausson he admitted that he was "still haunted by the Wizard of Bayreuth and the phantoms of old Klingsor... And so I tore it all up and am now seeking a more personal idiom ('une petite chimie de phrases plus personnelles') and am trying to be as much Pelléas as Mélisande..."

And he was still working on his opera right up to the year 1902 when it had its notorious première at the Paris Opéra-Comique. Yours faithfully, ROLLO MYERS, Résidences de Villeneuve "A", Place du Grand-Jardin, 06140 Vence, France.

Pensions and grants

From Mrs J. Haley
Sir, I note that students are to receive grants of £1,000 per annum to cover their costs for 40 weeks, thus receiving £25 a week. A retired married couple receive a pension of £24.50 per week. Evidently the Government believes that two can live even more cheaply than one. Should not any evidence on which it grounds this belief be made public? Yours faithfully, JANETTA HALEY, 88 Blandford Road, Whitley Wood, Reading, Berkshire, April 5.

Far East trade with Britain

From Mr R. S. Milward

Sir, I have not yet seen the full text of what Mr Dell said at the Foreign Correspondents Club in Tokyo yesterday. According to *The Times* he castigated Japan for not importing manufactured products on the same scale as other industrial nations, but made no acknowledgment of the limitations imposed by the cost of fuels and raw materials—some two-thirds of Japan's export earnings. Mr Dell apparently included Japan's complex distribution system as part of Japan's "discrimination" against imports, while failing to recognize that it must be some degree to the Japanese to streamline a system whose complexities have developed over centuries. He listed "certain barriers"—tariffs on confectionery and the duty on Scotch whisky—but failed to say the Japanese now has as few barriers to imports and as low tariffs as this country, and is willing to negotiate in the Gatt on those that remain. He seemed to imply that these barriers are a significant factor in the size of Britain's trade deficit with Japan. They are in fact of minor importance.

More seriously, his reportedly "searing public attack" fails to recognize or build on the wishes of the Japanese Government, administration and business world to be as cooperative as they reasonably can towards Britain's need for increased exports, subject only to their unwillingness, in a free and democratic country, to dictate to the consumer what he shall buy.

Many British firms and industries are already working to increase their exports to Japan. The Japanese automobile, electronic and other industries on their side are showing considerable understanding in discussion with their British counterparts and restraint in the tempo of their exports. Healthy trade between the two countries can be developed only by further efforts and good will shown by the industries on both sides. Today's press reports seem to ignore this essential matter and to concentrate on the minor irritants.

The Japanese Chamber in the United Kingdom cooperates fully with the Export and Import Unit of the BOTB in the "Japan Task Force", in efforts to promote further exports to Japan. It would be helpful if public speeches and press reports would try to build on the present good will—at least the recognition of evidence—that rather than destroy it through unbalanced and seemingly ill-informed onslaughts. Such reports as those appearing today are profoundly discouraging to those influential Japanese who have been cooperating generously with Mr Dell's own Department in trying to balance the balance of Anglo-Japanese trade. Yours faithfully, R. S. MILWARD, General Manager, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the United Kingdom, c/o Mitsubishi Corporation, Bow Bells House, Broad Street, EC4, April 19.

From Mr Roderick MacFarquhar, MP for Belper (Labour), and Mr John Roper, MP for Farnworth (Labour and Co-operative)
Sir, Your first leader on April 19 rightly drew attention to the fact that in Britain we study China more than Japan despite having considerable links with the latter. One reason for this disparity, apart from the political factors indicated in the leader, is that in the 1960s the Americans decided that it would be valuable to themselves if there were a larger "China-watching" community in Europe whose viewpoints would balance those of American Sinologists. Consequently they invested considerable funds in developing European Sinological studies.

If Japanese studies in Europe are also to expand, a similar outside effort will be required, this time from Japan. If Japanese businessmen sincerely wish to better understand of their country in Europe then they should consider allocating funds for the development of Japanese studies in Britain, France and Germany particularly as they have done in the case of the United States. The tension over trade between the EEC and Japan, which has recently been dramatically demonstrated by our Trade Secretary's speech in Tokyo, underlines the importance of the task. Yours sincerely, RODERICK MACFARQUHAR, JOHN ROPER, House of Commons, April 20.

A disease of money

From Professor Lord Kaldor, FBA
Sir, Your leading article on "A Disease of Money" concludes by saying that a reduction in the excess money supply of 9.8 per cent in 1974 was followed in 1976 by a 7.7 per cent reduction in the inflation rate of retail prices and that "this prediction of a major change in the inflation rate before any agreement on incomes policy".

Are the words italicized by me in the above quotation intended to convey your view that the agreement on incomes policy between the Government and the TUC in the summer of 1975 played no role in bringing about the major change in trend in the rate of inflation in 1976, since the latter would have happened in any case on account of the reduction in the rate of growth of M3 (though not in other measures of the "money supply") which occurred in 1974? Or is it intended to convey your view that but for the slow-down in the growth of M3 in 1974 there would have been no agreement on incomes policy in the summer of 1975? Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS KALDOR, rue St Joseph, La Garde-Freinet, Var, France, April 11.

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Electors' influence on EEC policy

From Mr David Bagnall

Sir, The next major phase of the development of the enlarged European Economic Community will be concerned with the question of the effective coordination of economic and, specifically, budgetary policy and, members states, which must ultimately involve the creation of machinery for supra-national budgetary direction. The creation of such machinery is bound to extend the powers of the Council of Ministers and the Commission, and, if the basic democratic principle of no taxation without representation is to be effectively preserved within the Community, the new directly elected European Assembly must be an effective counter-weight to these powers.

It is clear, therefore, that if the EEC is to develop and increase its unity and cohesion along democratic lines, the new Assembly must become more representative and acquire more power: for it will be the only forum in which citizens of the Community will be able to exercise a direct influence on the Community's policies in their formation stage.

In recent years the present European Parliament has obtained some increased control over Community expenditure; however, if unity and cohesion are to develop along democratic lines in the very sensitive area of the effective coordination of economic and budgetary policy, the new Assembly should seek to obtain for itself at the earliest possible stage the right to review all the proposals of the European Commission, and not only those which have budgetary implications, when they are still in draft form and before they are submitted to the Council of Ministers.

Nobody can forecast the time scale of events in the next phase of EEC development, but the first five-year period of the new Assembly is likely to see some of the important preliminary discussions and moves in the next stage of both the economic and political evolution of the Community, which could have far-reaching effects on the future economic and political structure of Europe.

The mission on which our representatives at this new Assembly will embark on in May or June 1978 is of too great long-term importance to be left to the chance of the distortions of the "first past the post" electoral system. It seems only common sense that from the very start all our members should be elected by a method of proportional representation, so that there is a realistic and effective balance of a true balance of national attitudes than is thrown up by the present system.

Yugoslav socialism

From Sir Fitzroy Maclean

Sir, I can't help feeling that Mr Bernard Levin (April 13), however knowledgeable about Spain, is not very well informed about Yugoslavia. President Tito, as I can well testify, has steadily shown that most of us and has never shown during the 34 years I have known him any particular fear of death or reluctance to face the inevitable. Of recent years I have always found him more than ready, when the question came up, to discuss the perfectly sensible arrangements that have been made in Yugoslavia for an orderly succession when he dies, whether this be sooner or later. Meanwhile he continues to enjoy life and plays an active and useful, but far from solitary, part in the government of his country and the conduct of its foreign policy. Nor in endorsing Yugoslavia with its present form of government can Tito really be said to have "ignored the deeper truths of human reality". His government came into being in the course of a bitter, savage and hard fought war against an utterly ruthless aggressor. (There was, I can assure your readers, nothing unreal about that.) During the 28 years following Tito's extremely realistic break with Moscow, the system has been continually modified, invariably with the object of making it work better. As Tito said to me recently, "We have ceased to be dogmatists; we try to see things as they are".

The result has been a highly decentralized form of federal government (which takes almost excessive account of the very real problem of the nationalities) and an economic

system closely approximating to a market economy and designed to encourage enterprise and initiative and make full use of the profit motive (realities all too often ignored by our own rulers). Finally, in a still largely agricultural country, the peasants are given every encouragement to make a good living off the land, 80 per cent of which is privately owned. Once again, speaking as a farmer, Yugoslav agricultural policy seems to me as realistic as that of most governments.

Like most political systems, the Yugoslav system is open to criticism from a number of points of view. The Russians attack it as highly heretical from a Marxist-Leninist point of view. In the West it is naturally criticized as a one-party system. By some it might be said to be unduly pragmatic. But, in the circumstances prevailing in Eastern Europe and in the world today, I would certainly not have called it unrealistic.

As regards its permanence or impermanence, Mr Levin would presumably like to see it overturned. In this he will find he has some very enthusiastic allies. Whether they will be to his rather fastidious taste or not is another matter. For my own part I would soon see the Yugoslavs left to maintain their independence as best they can and work things out for themselves in a way which to my mind takes the fullest possible account of the realities of their exposed and precarious position.

Yours faithfully, FITZROY MACLEAN, Strachur House, Argyll, April 18.

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Royal titles

From Mr E. D. G. Robinson
Sir, The Duke of Gloucester, the Duke of Kent and Lord Nicholas Windsor. He does not use his father's third title of Baron Downpatrick. Similarly a second son of the Duke of Gloucester would be known as Lord Windsor, not Baron Culloden. In fact the title Baron Culloden is likely to come into use only if the Duke of Gloucester's first son, the Earl of Ulster, eventually has a son. The Duke's lifetime. That grandson would be known as Baron Culloden. This use of subordinate titles is in effect, an anticipation of eventual inheritance. Obviously a second son is not in that position. Yours faithfully, E. D. G. ROBINSON, 25 Park Road, Salford, April 17.

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Work, stress, and death

From Dr Elizabeth S. B. Wilson

Sir, Today's edition (April 18) of *The Times* carries a thoughtful and detailed obituary of my husband, Professor Graham Wilson. However, there is one important point which I must take issue. He died of cancer of the stomach which had probably been present for a long time before it was discovered nine months ago. There is absolutely no scientific evidence that stress, hard work or travelling have any connection whatever with this condition and very little that they are a relevant factor in cardiovascular or any other disease.

There has been a great deal of emphasis in the media recently about the hypothetically adverse effects of so-called "overwork". My husband, a medical scientist, felt strongly that this supposition had no basis in fact and would have been most indignant if he had known that the possibility had been raised in his own obituary. Stress is the loosely applied term which is supposed to provide causal relationships. However, there is far more stress in coming home at five o'clock to a nagging wife and rebellious children than in completing 14 hours of worthwhile and largely enjoyable work even if one's safe arrival home does depend on the vagaries of the Shuttle. People who work hard do so because they want to—some live long like Churchill and some die before their time as did my husband, but to believe that one can be killed by overwork is as unscientific as to associate the common cold with wet feet.

Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH S. B. WILSON, 11 Westbourne Gardens, Glasgow.

Local broadcasting

From Mrs Cora A. M. Heptonstall
Sir, Your article on the future of local broadcasting (April 15) makes welcome and helpful comment on what you describe as the "negative argument" for the BBC retention of local radio stations, but one feels that the positive argument could be extended.

In Humberdale the relationship between local radio and the BBC is seen as of two-way benefit; the BBC not only using local radio, but local radio deriving advantages from BBC expertise. Furthermore, local radio gives consumers a choice and protects minority interests. The "negative" argument, namely, that which local radio is able to foster is invaluable and it is felt that commercial radio could not attend to community needs in the same way. Many sparsely populated areas in this part of the country are served by local radio, and one doubts whether there would be enough advertising material to enable such areas to be served were local radio exclusively commercial. Lastly, in the light of the minuscule proportion of local radio in the whole of the BBC's output, a family paying just over a penny a week between them—"one might infer that the service gives value for money. For these reasons one would hope to see local radio retained under the BBC and more over extended so that less use is made of national programme material. Yours faithfully, CORA A. M. HEPTONSTALL, Chairman, Humberdale Local Radio Council, 9 Chapel Street, Kingston upon Hull.

Elderly travellers

From Lady Bragg
Sir, I was interested to read Lord Clark's letter (April 15) concerning the problems of the elderly traveller. I am one of the over 75s who frequently use British Rail, and often find myself at a London terminus, Cambridge, or at a London terminus, with luggage to transport. Since, and here I agree with Lord Clark, one expects no help from British Rail, I have adopted various techniques for myself, so that I can arrive at the train terminus, and, if necessary, at a London terminus, with luggage to transport. Since, and here I agree with Lord Clark, one expects no help from British Rail, I have adopted various techniques for myself, so that I can arrive at the train terminus, and, if necessary, at a London terminus, with luggage to transport.

First, I have a large suitcase on wheels (a perfect specimen of its kind) which I draw along on an attached sort of dog lead. It follows me down the longest platform to the train, and I avoid the crowded pavements, where it never fails to attract attention by its performance. On my back I have a feather-weight rucksack, heavily filled, so that one hand is free to clutch rail, banister or other support to avoid the nightmare of the elderly, the fall. For the initial moves of getting the suitcase out of the train, and up and down stairs, I rely with confidence upon the British public. Some may invariably appear, and does the job. Here, obviously Oxbridge undergraduates (some of whom seem to be always in transit) can be relied upon. True, one can be pushed aside in getting a taxi, but I can put on record that at a London terminus, when two middle aged men beat me to it, the taxi driver said firmly: "I'm taking the lady—she can't run as fast." So my age group should not be discouraged. Even British Rail itself makes spasmodic efforts. There are half-price tickets for us all. There are also indications of concern, and even, here and there, achievement. As my own nearest station, Ipswich, it is not unknown for old people and their luggage to be taken in the lift for goods freight to avoid a bridge and staircase, the solitary porter has related tips, and kind, and any railway official will help. The situation, I am glad to say, is not everywhere "a source of shame to railwaymen and their colleagues", and need not be anywhere with thought and imagination. Yours faithfully, LADY BRAGG, Quaker, Walsingham, Suffolk.

Amenity rubbish

From Mrs Frances M. Pelling
Sir, Why not "TRASH"? It is short, it is not sweet, truly English, and economical of paint! Yours truly, FRANCES M. PELLING, The Anchorage, Epping Road, Royston.

NEW BOOKS

A cast in the eye

Patrick Pearse
The Triumph of Failure
By Ruth Dudley Edwards
(Collins, £7.95)

This excellent book is the first full account and the only, precise biography of Patrick Pearse, all its predecessors having been either attenuated or hagiographical, sometimes both. Desmond Ryan set the tone in his first fond memoir of the revolutionary saint of Irish nationalism: "Kings with plumes may adorn their heads but angels meet the soul of Patrick Pearse." Subsequent writers seriously proposed Pearse as a suitable case for canonisation. Until recently printed delineations of the leader of the Easter Rising have resembled the portraits which adorn so many cottage walls in Ireland, often beside pictures of the Pope. They are taken in profile and do not show the eyes, in Pearse's case such idealisation has provided its own hostile reaction, for to accept Pearse as a messiah is to endorse his judgment that the Irish nation was degenerate and in need of his redemption.

Now Ruth Dudley Edwards has disposed of the myths and revised the revisionists. It is a pity she has clothed her elegant Mandarin scholarship in such a fitting prose, a kind of broadcaster's demotic. And there are other points at which one might cavil. For example, among the leaders of the IRB it is probable that Sean MacDermott and Tom Clarke were "the main force for insurrection". However, all told the book succeeds marvellously in its aim—so difficult because every retrospective judgment is a contemporary booby-trap—to produce a balanced assessment of a man whose life has been victim of the Whig interpretation of biography. His life has been systematically read backwards and everything has been seen in the light of its inevitable culmination in the martyr's death of 1916 who regarded hatred for the English as a "holy passion" and believed that, though "we

may make mistakes in the beginning and shoot the wrong people", a blood sacrifice was "a cleansing and sanctifying thing". Pearse himself contributed to this distortion. He maintained that his cultural nationalism—his endeavours to propagate the Irish language through writing and through his enlightened school—was apprenticeship for the armed political struggle.

Ruth Dudley Edwards sets the order straight. She reveals a Pearse who for most of his life was more interested in the integrity of the Gaelic Volk than the independence of the Irish nation. His youthful imagination was captured by the folk-heroes of a romantic past. He revered, without understanding, the "kindly, faced frieze-covered peasants" of the west. He adored with all the fervour of an unconscious homosexual, pure and beautiful boys. He was devoted to Mother Church, Mother Ireland and Mother—whom he wrote a moving poem from the condemned cell.

The man behind the icon was small, proud and shy. He had few original ideas (none, for example, about Uster) and no social grace. Yet he established himself as the Savonarola of Irish nationalism, repellent but magnetic. He was a passionate orator, a puritanical visionary, an arrogant fanatic. Blood was on his lips but he did not like it on his hands. He could not bear the sight of suffering. At the Rising he wore his officer's sword but he was incapable of slicing a loaf of bread. By then, anyway, he aspired not to kill but to be killed, not to exhort as Savonarola but to act as saviour. He was so dangerous, as Yeats said, because he was possessed by "the verities of self-sacrifice".

Ruth Dudley Edwards rightly declares that the apocryphal, like the Easter Rising itself, Pearse triumphed through failure. But if he gave his contemporaries the key to a new self-respect, it was also 1916, by a Pandora's Box of troubles.

Piers Brendon

Poetry

The Winter's Task, by Robert Wells (Carcanet Press, £2)

Collected Early Poems of Ezra Pound, edited by Michael John King (Faber, £12)

Collected Poems in English and French, by Samuel Beckett (John Calder, £4.50)

The Oxford Book of Welsh Verse in English, chosen by Gwyn Jones (Oxford, £3.95)

The Penguin Book of American Verse, edited by Geoffrey Moore (Penguin, £1.75)

Robert Wells, at 30, and with a single book, *The Winter's Task*, seems to me to establish himself as one of the best young poets now writing. He writes poems that are plain and unpretentious, poems firmly in the English tradition, poems devoid of ambiguity or speculation of any kind. Reading him, the first of all a pleasure because you find yourself in a landscape you seem to recognize. Then it is a surprise and an instruction because that landscape is not quite as it was in Hardy's day, or in Edward Thomas's. The weather has changed, some freshness in the seeing has been matched by a newness in the saying, with a result that we seem to be looking at familiar fields grown suddenly foreign and full of mystery. I will not say "magic" since Mr Wells is not at all a sloppy poet. If anything, I should suppose that his critical masters are Yvor Winters, with his insistence that a poem should be a memorable statement, and T. E. Hulme, with his wish for "accurate, precise and definite description", and a poetry that is "dry and sophisticated". Life and poetry have a nice way of being more serious than even the most reliable theorists allow, however, and so we have Mr Wells, writing two stanzas in regular metre on a conventional theme, "After Day-making", and coming up with the following:

The last blue placed, he stretched
his warmth and his were one.
He watched the fields beneath the
weakening day
And felt his skin
burning with the sun.
When it was dusk, he moved.
And clothes the great sun cold
He trembled as he felt the day
begin
To touch and touch for what it
could not hold.

No unexpected happening, no flashy images, not a single departure from the word-order of common speech, yet in the peculiar sensuousness of the whole, embodied in that repeated touch, the poem comes alive and is like no one else alive. A poet who can use the word *and* to such effect that you can almost feel it (as Mr Wells does here, in his last line) is someone to be reckoned with. The book contains a dozen things as good, including the

Four lines as bitter and beautiful as anything he has written. Finally, two anthologies. *The Oxford Book of Welsh Verse in English*, chosen by Gwyn Jones, ranges from the bardic Antigon to the heavily less bardic Dylan Thomas, but finds room for the quieter merits of Dafydd ap Gwilym and Edward Thomas as well. Altogether, there are 238 poems, more than half of them translations from the Welsh language. *The Penguin Book of American Verse*, edited by Geoffrey Moore, starts with Anne Bradstreet and ends with a number of versatile poets who are mislabeled as "anti-White racial sentiments". Its most serious omission is Laura Riding, arguably the most gifted and important American poet of the twentieth century, and completely ignored here. Miss Riding's dislike of anthologies is well-known, but Mr Moore gives evidence of having even asked her. At only £1.75 for 656 pages the book represents value of a kind.

Robert Nye



The young Dylan, with family

It had to happen

Dylan Thomas
By Paul Ferris
(Hodder & Stoughton, £7.50)

My Friend Dylan Thomas
By Daniel Jones
(Dent, £3.95)

On the day of Dylan Thomas's funeral at Laugharne Daniel Jones and his good friend, the poet, John Ormond, were ushered into the front parlour to view the corpse.

What Daniel Jones saw was a grotesque parody of the poet; a simulacrum plastered with the pancake make-up of the American mortician, a mass of flesh with the cold hardness of stone.

Daniel Jones looked at it without feeling. Suddenly he caught a glimpse of a fly crawling up the windowpane.

He concentrated on it fiercely. "Now here was something wonderful, something worthy of inspiring awe," he writes.

It is a disturbing and dazzling start to a slim, idiosyncratic and immensely stimulating portrait in words of Dylan Thomas.

It is written with passion, with affection, with sadness and with deep perception.

"Dylan did not like himself very much," he writes. "He would have liked his myth even less."

And what myths surround the man? His memory has been chipped, cracked and scratched like an old coronation beer mug.

The booze-bound poet, spraying drunken witticisms, driven to squalid, lonely death by a mountain of debts has become the accepted picture of the man.

Both Daniel Jones and Paul Ferris in their different ways show that this was far from the truth.

Mr Ferris is a scholarly, meticulously-researched and beautifully-written biography has probed carefully and sympathetically into the background and character of the poet.

Although he uncovered new material, I confess I found his

preoccupation with the details surrounding Thomas's death slightly distasteful.

However, his account of the poet's childhood and youth in Swansea, the tempestuous marriage, the creative peaks and troughs, and his analysis of the forces that governed the life and works of this remarkable man have produced a book that will become essential reading for both scholar and layman.

What Mr Ferris shows strikingly in all the tortured, rumbustious, comic and tragic circumstances of the poet's life is the ease and the kindness of his native Wales.

Famous poets, critics and producers are found in abundance in the pages of this book. But the London discerning and generous comments about Dylan Thomas come from the people of his homeland—people like Vernon Watkins, Bert Trick, Fred Jones and, of course, Daniel Jones himself.

"Dylan had the proper Welsh background," says a Swansea girl who knew him from childhood. "The fact that he was constantly misbehaving was a loss to him. He wanted people to think well of him. He brought up like me, worried. 'What will the neighbours think?'"

That his Welsh friends and neighbours thought so much of him is obvious from Daniel Jones's book.

Those closest to him saw through the myth that was in many ways self-created.

The saw him showing off furiously in London pubs, and they loved it. But they loved and praised the witty, generous and immensely-welcomed poet who "was sick with nostalgia for the days when he was 'young and easy'".

Daniel Jones says:

I cannot imagine how these two parts of his personality could be integrated and survive as one. When his mind was in a matter and anti-matter, the result is zero, annihilation. It seems to me that whatever the cause of Dylan's death, it had to happen when it did.

Peter Tinniswood

This is your life

With an Independent Air
Encounters during a lifetime of broadcasting

By Howard Thomas
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £5.95)

To start with the BBC in the 1930s must have been like starting with the Vatican as a trainee guard, and even those who subsequently lost the Faith seem to look back on their pre-war BBC time through a haze of reverent nostalgia. So now we have Howard Thomas, presently Chairman of Thames Television, recalling how he created the *Brain Trust* and gave a wartime microphone to Vera Lynn and might have stayed with the BBC for ever had he not grown restless, a sin which the Corporation punished (after he'd given in his notice) by removing his name from all the programmes he was still producing for them.

Even so, Mr Thomas is at this distance unable to summon up much indignation: the first half of his book reads like a gossip-column anthology from back numbers of the *Radio Times*, full of joky little anecdotes about stars like Tessie O'Shea who is described as "an all-round entertainer" with an exclamation mark inserted in brackets after the "all-round".

Just in case we'd missed the point, Mr Thomas does not leave much to chance.

This half of the book is oddly disappointing, partly because it consists of irrelevant information from Mr Thomas's old radio scripts stitched together with lengthy descriptions of minor interludes BBC warfare and bureaucratic squabbles but mainly because Mr Thomas is so very brisk in dealing with the really interesting (and unexplored)

elsewhere) aspects of his work in the pioneering of commercial radio shows for Luxembourg, which company in five pre-war years managed to steal a third of the BBC audience without any British press publicity, where it later took ITV two years to capture less than a quarter of it.

Still, the book does improve drastically when Mr Thomas leaves the BBC and we escape the constant nudge-nudge of "a local schoolmaster compiled a popular aircraft recognition quiz—from there Frank Gillard went on to become managing director of BBC radio". Not for nothing does Thomas still transmit *This Is Your Life*.

Mr Thomas (the knighthood can surely only be a matter of time now) joined ABC, the original part-owners of Thames, in 1944 to look after their *Punch* Gazette; from there across 30 years he rose through the company ranks to head ABC's television interests and the second half of his narrative deals in mercifully less gossipy fashion with the jigsaw start of ITV.

Only after the great ITV shake-up of 1967 did Thomas take shape and only then could Thomas truly claim to have got his television thinking more or less right. His stories also improve drastically here, whether they be of himself nervously leaning out of trains to court ITV aerials or of Lord Grade betting Lord Mountbatten that the latter's autobiography transmitted at 10.30 in the evening would attract more viewers than a 9. It did not, of course, but Grade happily paid the £500 wager rather than have his prime time interrupted.

By the book's end, if we overlook a bizarre last chapter of What the Future Holds Mr Thomas's judgment seems to have settled down and he is evidently moving with some pleasure into the role of an elder tele-statesman.

Sheridan Morley

Power feeding on memory

The Autumn of the Patriarch

By Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Translated by Gregory Rabassa
(Cape, £4.50)

For more than a hundred years the general has ruled over the land of Caribbe-Andean country where reform is defined as the abolition of quaternary by horses and its replacement by an electric charge so great that it blacks out the capital city and still leaves the victims sizzling but alive.

The general acquires a devoted respect for his public—he himself is too shy—and when the double dies the general is able to watch for a few hours the joy of his people and the plans of his successors in council.

So absorbed in the depths of great silence he notices the appearance of the unborn president who gave a single blow with the palm of his hand on the table, and shouted *cha!* and the use of all he had to do, for when he lifted his hand from the table the stampede of panic was over and all that was left in the room were the overflowing astragal, the coffee mug, the chairs flung on the floor, and my comrade of a lifetime General Rodrigo de Aguirre in battle dress, minute, impassive, waiting among the smoke with his one hand indicating the door to the floor, the general's dearest wish of all. After they have removed his territorial waters in numbered sections for redistribution in Arizona, his filthy palace looks over a

the fate of General Rodrigo de Aguirre—done to a turn on a gurney of cauliflower and laurel leaves, with a sprig of parsley stuck in his mouth—provides *The Autumn of the Patriarch* with its most extravagant Jacobine gesture of all. Indeed, Webster brings it uncomfortably nearer home: there are quite as many enumerated methods of ending human life, for example, in *Edward II*. Autocracy on this scale, however, we have so far avoided. Catastrophe, too.

The illiterate general believes that all a father of his people needs is a good minister of health and someone to write nice letters for him. His strength are directly and ignorance—"you aren't the government, general": his most formidable lieutenant reminds him, "you're the power"—and great care is taken that so serious a man of the world outside ever reaches his personal newspaper and palace television service. In this way he has survived Kitchener, the economic pressures of Imperial Germany, and the conspiratorial inquiries of the League of Nations. But even the subliminal now mortgaged to the Americans and when they threaten to bring in the Marines, the general's only recourse is to drop to the floor, the general's dearest wish of all. After they have removed his territorial waters in numbered sections for redistribution in Arizona, his filthy palace looks over a

rotting city and, beyond, where the harbour was, a waste of lunar ash.

Of course the general is soft-hearted and has lovely hands. A dedicated runner, he performs his *droit de seigneur* with precision and brutality, yet long only for love, not honour, in bed.

Of the two women who promise him this, the second persuades him to secret marriage and the knowledge of an official heir. (I won't tell you what happens to them.) More than all these, of course, the general loves his old mother and when the Vatican declines to recommend her for canonization, he does the only thing possible for a man in his position: he makes her a saint himself and chucks the Church out.

Gabriel Garcia Marquez is the author of that fabulous narrative novel, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1967), and although two volumes of stories have been published here since, *The Autumn of the Patriarch* is his true successor.

Composed over seven years, it is a fierce and grisly entertainment about the mysterious indestructibility of Latin-American dictatorship. European readers will recognize legendary elements of Franco, Salazar, Duvalier, Scaevester and all three Peróns, to name only the best known to us, but Marquez has combined them all into a representative phantasmagoria of power feeding on the pathetic memory of the people. The fable is seasoned with savage wit, wild beauty and a positively orgasmic attention to detail.

The long quotation above—there were many to choose from—gives an idea of its vitality and of Gregory Rabassa's splendidly readable translation.

Alas, following the success of a change story in *Leaf Storm* (1973) Marquez has elected to write the entire book in six chapters without paragraph or normal punctuation. He embraces the comma with fervent and necessary skill, but the full stop occurs, roughly, once every 400 words. Since this is not a matter, thank God, of single sentences 400 words long but of several sentences writhing in normal sequence between commas, the method seems frequently wilful. It not only makes the book more difficult and less enjoyable to read than its predecessor—I actually ran my finger under the lines on many occasions in order not to skid off—but also (or rather therefore) less effective.

There are many sentences in which a full stop would not only clarify the sense but sharpen the jokes, and it seems a great pity that one of the few living world novelists with a spectacular command of traditional narrative forms should abandon them for the methods favoured by evasive and lesser talents than his for the past 30 years. I don't believe the "continuous" structure is in any way essential to the book's obsessive and bloody strengths—indeed it diminishes them—or that, for my part, the careful huddling would not put all to rights. For it is an extraordinary book.

Michael Ratcliffe

Two cheers for Jane

The Watsons, by Jane Austen and Another (Peter Davies, £3.95)

The Adventures of Long John Silver, by Denis Judd (Michael Joseph, £3.95)

Mary Me, by John Updike (André Deutsch, £3.50)

Smurise, by Dominic Cooper (Chatto & Windus, £3.95)

The Man From Next Door, by Hamish Hamilton (Hamish Hamilton, £3.75)

"There would be more genuine rejoicing at the discovery of a complete new novel by Jane Austen than any other literary discovery short of a new major play by Shakespeare."

So writes Margaret Drabble in her introduction to the Penguin English Library edition of *The Watsons*—17,000 words which were written before being abandoned by Jane Austen in mid-career.

"Another" is not the same writer as "Another Lady", who finished a version of *Sanditon* a few years ago—that was good, this is better. What we have is a completion of Jane Austen's fragment in terms of actual plot which is convincing and satisfying, as likely as any other that might be devised. It is based upon family knowledge of her own apparent intentions for the book, as told to her sister Cassandra.

What we do not have, of course, is Jane Austen's own genius; the intriguing spirit, human perceptiveness and intelligence, the wisdom, and capacity for irony and subtlety beyond that of any other English novelist. If we come to the novel contemplating what would have been the scene or that and speculating upon all the unfulfilled potential, then we shall be frustrated and disappointed. Not that the existing portion of *The Watsons* isn't enough to tantalize

anyone; the characters are all there, the scene set, tone and attitude decided.

Characters are black and white, whereas Jane Austen knew that this was rarely so, and would have treated the fools, especially, with sympathy. Social pretensions drew forth her scorn, but real condemnation was reserved for human cruelty.

The style is graceful and pleasing, only occasionally inept, and without too many "period" words and phrases planted about like markers.

The whole is agreeable, lively, consistent—in short, most well come.

By contrast, Denis Judd's book is a piece of speculation about the career of Long John Silver before his appearance in Stevenson's *Treasure Island*. It's as likely as anything, and profoundly uninteresting.

Except for some gratuitously violent passages about life and butchery aboard a slave ship, it might have been written for children; or, indeed, written by a child, in that frenzy of activity and incident one gets from seven-year-olds who skate fast over the bits they can't pad out.

Another problem is that he has chosen a fiendishly difficult type of novel to succeed with; one man's solitary journey across a landscape and into himself. It is reminiscent of *Puncher Martin*, but Mr Cooper has not William Golding's sure genius. Nor has he any ear for dialogue—though he attempts little enough of it.

Yet, at the heart of this novel there is much truth, a real struggle to convey a man's despair, rage, starving, Murdo

simply won't do, tacked on to a work of social realism.

Two couples are involved in the marital muddles—the awful Mathias, who deserves one another but can't see it, and the nice, though stupid, Conants. Jerry Conant has fallen for Sally Mathias—Sally who is sexy, cunning, ruthless, self-centred. Will they break up their two families or not? That's all, really.

There is something worrying about *Smurise*, this second novel from a winner of the Somerset Maugham Award. That Dominic Cooper can write, at least descriptive prose, very well, is not in doubt, and therein lies some of the trouble. He knows and loves intimately the West coast of Scotland—its landscape, weather, moods, wild-life, and wants to convey all this to his readers, yet only half-succeeds because he goes on much too much about it.

Another problem is that he has chosen a fiendishly difficult type of novel to succeed with; one man's solitary journey across a landscape and into himself. It is reminiscent of *Puncher Martin*, but Mr Cooper has not William Golding's sure genius. Nor has he any ear for dialogue—though he attempts little enough of it.

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Murdo is an inarticulate forestry worker, suffering the effects of a foolish youthful marriage. At his daughter's wedding, final hope gone, he breaks out, bursts down his cottage, runs. He reveals to his long-stranded sister further north, cannot settle, drinks, wanders the countryside, returns to face his own death. The final few pages are extremely moving, and written with an economy that augurs well.

Within its limits Honor Tracy's *The Man from Next Door* is extremely accomplished, crisp and sinister, a little like early Evelyn Barlow or Ursula Curtis. Penelope Butler was rescued from a hated teaching job and a husband, narrow life by a football pools win, and moved contentedly into a lush block of Kensington flats, to savour leisure, concerts, theatres, exhibitions, and solitude, and mind her own business. This doesn't suit a new neighbour, untrustworthy Irish charmer Johnny Crockett, who is revealed as a dangerous crook—except that it isn't half so straightforward as that, since Miss Butler may really be paranoid, because plausible Crockett has an explanation for everything. Miss Tracy is a thorough-going professional, with task control over her plot and a nice line in outrageous snobbery.

Susan Hill

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the bestselling novel by John Gordon Davis

£4.50

Michael Joseph

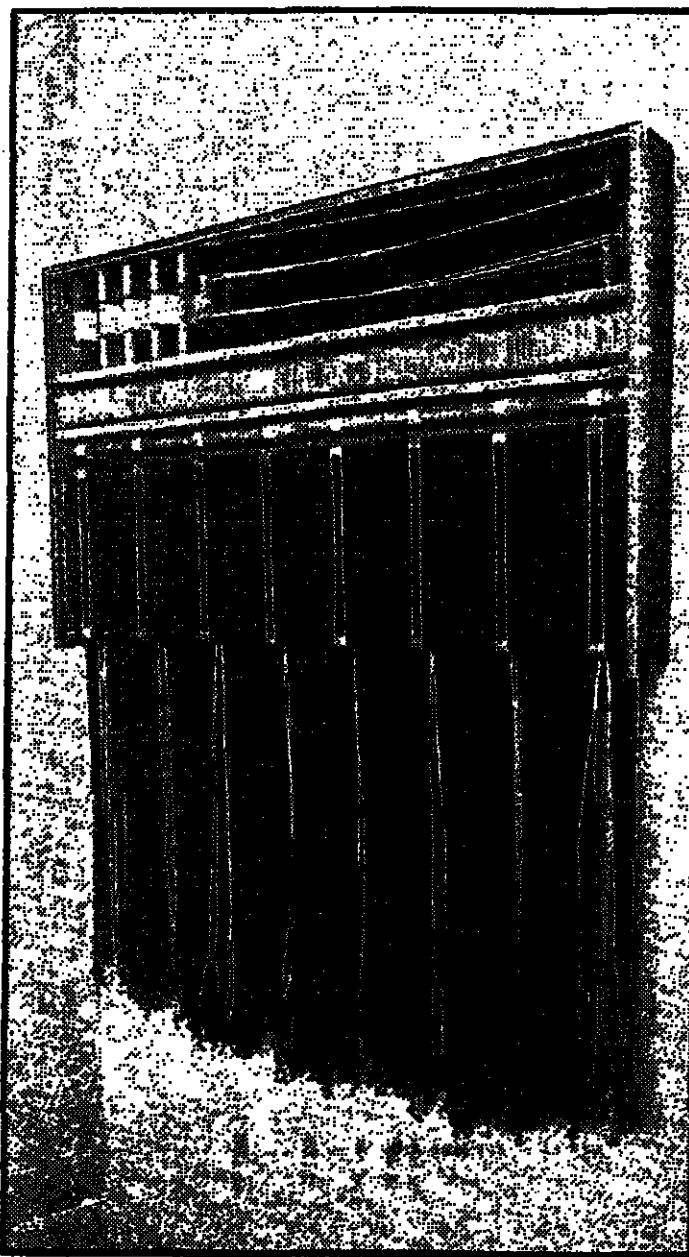
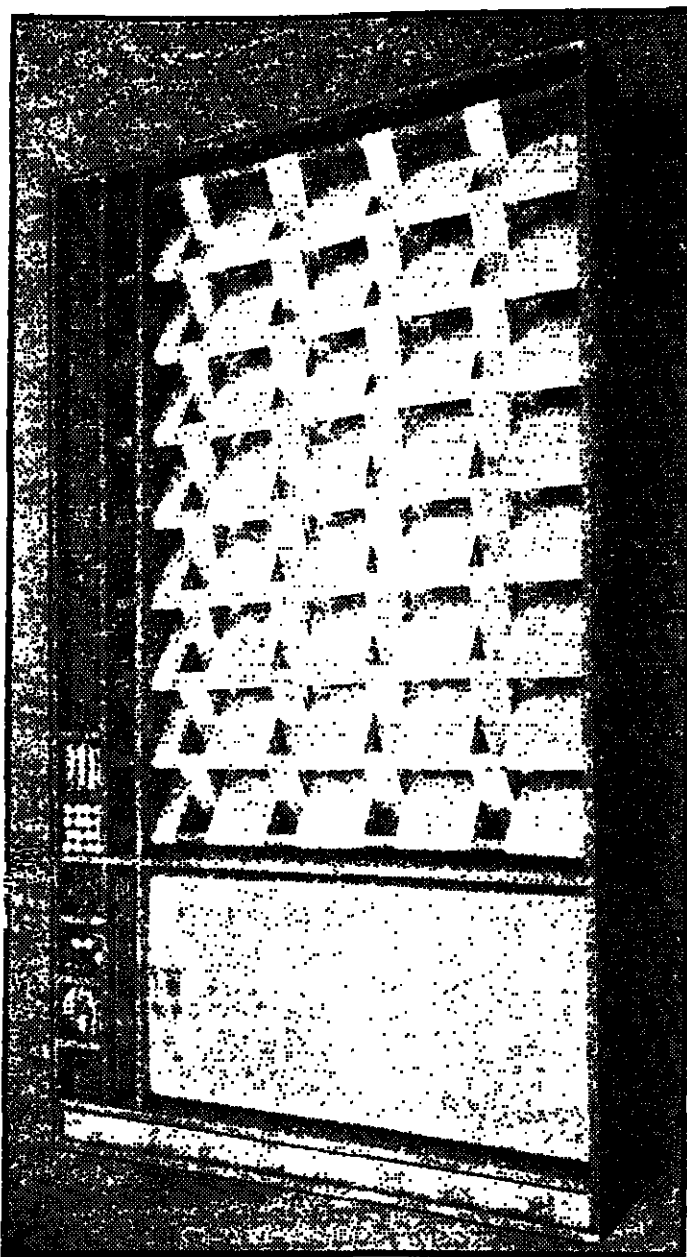
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Fashion

by Prudence Glynn



One of the greatest charms of life is coincidence. When I returned to London from the west country and reporting on John Makepeace's new venture at lovely Parnham House it was to find a note from Paul Nicholls on my desk. Paul Nicholls I wrote about a year ago when I described a visit to Brympton d'Evercy at Yeovil, Somerset. Mr Nicholls is now exhibiting his original wood and string wall-hangings at the Bampton Arts Centre near Witney in Oxfordshire.

The examples illustrated here are among his most attractive. If you miss the exhibitions, his address is The Cottage, Broadwell, Lechlade, Glos. Also exhibiting at this time is Ann Sutton, Mrs John Makepeace, at the elegant galleries of Dodson Bull Interiors Ltd, in the Barbican Trade Centre. Paul Nicholls was once a student of Ann Sutton, so the coincidence comes a full circle.

Right: Ann Sutton's snakey rug, and knot cushion, in many coloured wool knit. The sofa is by Pierre Paulin.

Left: Paul Nicholls's string and wool sculptures for the wall.



Photographs by Brian Harris

If the shoe fits, wear it

The other day I went to buy a pair of shoes from a smaller chain retailer which I have always liked for high style, reasonable price and comfortable fit. I selected their 4 1/2 inch heeled peep-toe shape of black patent-leather appearance, got my right size, large, for I had at that stage not realized that the dimensions of my feet might reflect adversely on the proportions of other of my physical charms, and within 10 minutes of wearing said shoes down Oxford Street I had three bloody lacerations and a flying start to a lotus right foot.

The lotus foot, in case you did not know, involved among other deformations the turning under of the four lesser toes. Snatching off my new purchase in the haven of a taxi, I read inside their gleaming and seductive exterior the words which I have come to dread on behalf of my feet. "Made in England". Luckily, the same man who has indicated, or more accurately proposed, my potential shame about the size of my feet is now on hand, or rather on paper, to explain why British shoes are so crippling. To William A. Rossi, author of *The Sex Life of the Foot and Shoe*, published today by Routledge, price £4.75, I am indebted for the observation that "shoes reflect the psycho-sexual characteristics of the wearer. For example the shoes that sell best in England, Scotland, Ireland, Scandinavia and Russia he regards as cold styles—footwear for people who are reserved both in personality and psycho-sexual make-up. A Spaniard, Mr Rossi suggests, or an Italian, wants warmer styles, more colourful or flamboyant shoes.

What Mr Rossi is really saying is that no one but the sadomasochistic northern races—so much for the sexy Scandinavian image—would settle for a moment for shoes which were not both overtly seductive but at the same time comfortable. Why is it that I can buy cheap Italian shoes with 4 1/2 inch heels and walk around all day in them? But the buck, or maybe the bunion, has to stop somewhere, and so far as I am concerned it stops right here under my desk. Yes, I like high heels, often, occasionally, just depending how I feel, for one of the rewards of current fashion is that you can really dress to please whoever you wish, self or other. But surely I cannot be the only woman in England who wants to have her chic cake and eat it? Who wants to be able to shorten her stride and tiptoe vulnerably into certain situations and an hour later be free to stride off about other business?

Mr Rossi, in a book of incalculable repetitiousness and grinding sexual analogy, fights shy of the fashion implications of the shoe. I have recorded, and been silenced for my pains by one brogued reader, my view that the high platform sole, now relegated to the lower social and age brackets indicates a most interesting split in female hopes: On the one

hand you see that built-up height gives authority (Greek drama heroes wore buskins, Emperor Hirohito wore gétas nearly twelve inches high when he was enthroned in 1926, but the rigid bulk makes quick movement, ie, flight from a predator, impossible).

Ten years after the liberated female adopted the Courreges shift and the Gucci boot or brogue, symbolizing her interest in red-hot technology and above all her control of her manifest destiny via the Pill, fashion has come right back to the high, slender heel—symbol, according to Mr Rossi, of all sorts of things you might or might not have suspected and utilitarian object for more things you might have suspected even less. It is, of course, the swing of the pendulum from aggressive feminist independence which now seems threatening in a period of high male unemployment and is thus discarded by the practical woman, to the realization that many women have a fortunate lot in life anyway. And the ideal is almost here: the rare, complete female wears high, slim sexy heels when she wants to and platform clogs to keep her toes out of the way of the mud or the slime she is going about her self-sufficient daily life.

The dreadfulness of British shoes is more important than a fashion item, however. Ten years ago 109,000 persons were employed in the industry; now the number is 75,000, of which 6,000 are government supported. Two out of five pairs of shoes bought in this country are imported. Why? There are three reasons. The first is, of course, styling. The British industry is reactionary in the extreme to design, students eschew a career of inflexible mediocrity. The few good designers we do produce have to have their designs made abroad.

Point two is the pricing of shoes. In an excellent and perceptive piece in *The Observer* last weekend Brian Pell traced the screwing down process which, coupled to the unambitious management of too many of our footwear firms, has got everyone online for the easy life and the mass-market order in place of new design or adventurous investment. One of the most vivid and successful men in the retail business today, John Turner, who owns the Midas chain, says: "We would love to buy from English manufacturers, but their attitude is pathetic. Their ranges are so dull and unexciting. Often we say, won't you make something specially for us—there are firms in Norwich, for example, who really can make beautiful shoes—but mostly they don't want to know, so we buy abroad."

Point three is fit. I am beholden to Mr Rossi for introducing me to a new fashion word, *al-alagnia*. Originated by the German psychiatrist Schrenck-Noring, a name I confess I would refer immediately to my colleague P. H. Simplicissimus, the word is compounded from *alagos* (ruin) and

lagnia (voluptuousness). It is the ideal word to describe most British-made shoes, though the *alagos* is in my experience usually superior to the *lagnia*. Should we be making shoes at all? The Germans have given it up, reckoning that such a labour-intensive industry would always be a cripple in a high-wage economy. The Americans too have given it up for the same reason, though President Carter's restrictions on imports of fashion and shoes have the EEC worried. Shoe manufacturers are rubbing their toes on a rock which this page has rehearsed before; the ambivalent attitude of the governing theme towards industries which can be promoted in less developed countries, enabling said countries to buy our more sophisticated hardware.

Eventually it must all come back to better design. We have that talent, schooled through our own art colleges but as yet unmarried specially to the shoe trade. We have to make up our state mind. Either we have a fashion industry and we support not just expedient areas of employment but invest in the future territories. Or we decide that we would rather sell plant than product and we stop training quite so many students for quite so tentative a future.

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pages
appointments
vacant
to industry
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مكتبة الشهي

Pearson Longman Limited

Preliminary Results for the year to 31st December 1976

	1976	1975
Turnover	£000	£000
The Financial Times Limited	23,235	19,394
Westminster Press Limited	63,155	46,113
Longman Holdings Limited	32,466	23,103
The Penguin Publishing Company Limited	18,698	17,248
Ladybird Books Limited	3,536	3,551
Inter-company turnover eliminated	(882)	(759)
	130,198	108,650
Profit before interest		
The Financial Times Limited	2,453	1,084
Westminster Press Limited	4,490	1,738
Longman Holdings Limited	8,136	4,912
The Penguin Publishing Company Limited	3,213	2,317
Ladybird Books Limited	798	875
Pearson Longman Limited	(42)	(59)
Sundry adjustments	27	4
	19,075	10,871
Deduct		
Interest payable less interest receivable	(931)	(1,614)
Profit before taxation		
The company and its subsidiaries	18,144	9,257
Associated companies	1,730	832
	19,874	9,889
Taxation thereon		
The company and its subsidiaries	7,827	3,669
United Kingdom	1,514	1,074
Overseas	9,441	4,743
Associated companies	538	333
	10,377	5,076
Profit of the group after taxation		
Profit attributable to minority interests	3,497	4,813
Profit of the year before extraordinary items	(484)	(195)
Extraordinary items profit/(loss)	9,013	4,618
Net profit attributable to Pearson Longman Limited	152	(650)
Dividends	3,765	3,968
Preference shares		
Pence per share	(22)	(22)
Ordinary shares		
1976	1975	
First interim	1,750	1,400
Second interim	3,610	3,473 (final)
	5,360	4,873
tax credit to shareholders	2,886	2,624
	3,246	7,497
Profit retained and added to reserves		
Capital reserves	160	234
Revenue reserves	6,774	1,703
	6,934	1,937
Earnings per ordinary share (based on profit before extraordinary items but after deducting preference dividends)		
	21.810p	11.148p

The exchange surplus arising on the annual reconversion of net assets overseas amounting to £282,775 (1975 £431,983) has been transferred direct to reserves. The figure shown above for extraordinary items in 1975 has been restated to reflect this change in practice.

The directors have declared a second interim dividend on the ordinary shares of 3.610p per share for the year to 31st December 1976 (1975 final 3.473p). This dividend will be payable on 3rd June 1977 to ordinary shareholders on the register at the close of business on 6th May 1977 and will entitle United Kingdom shareholders to a tax credit of thirty-five pence-fifths of the actual

amount received. It will therefore be equivalent to a gross dividend of 5.554p per share, making with the first interim dividend already paid a total of 8.246p per share (1975 7.497p). This is the maximum permitted under existing legislation.

The directors intend to recommend to shareholders that if the rate of advance corporation tax for 1977/78 is reduced, a final ordinary dividend in respect of 1976 be paid later in the year of such amount as will ensure that total gross ordinary dividends for the year are maintained at the maximum permitted under current legislation.



Companies receiving Queen's Awards for achievement in export and technology

Here is a complete list of the Queen's Awards for export and technology:

FOR EXPORT

Aaro Caravan; The Angus Irrigation unit of the Angus Fire Armour division of George Angus; The construction products division of Aruco; Laura Ashley; Austin & Pickersill; BICC Telecommunications Cables; The biscuit division of Baker Perkins; Banyard Metalheat; I. T. Boughton & Sons.

Bowling Reproductions; C. T. Bowring (Insurance) Holdings; The military aircraft division of British Aircraft Corporation; British Airways Board; British Films; British Steel Corporation (Overseas Services); John Brown Engineering (Clydebank); Brush Switchgear; C-Power (Marine); Carreras Rothmans.

Cohen Bros (Electrical); Cokes Cranes; Concor Building Overseas; Coronet EM; Croscol; Darlington & Simpson Rolling Mills; Davy-Loewy; Thomas De La Rue; Derwent Publications; Dima International.

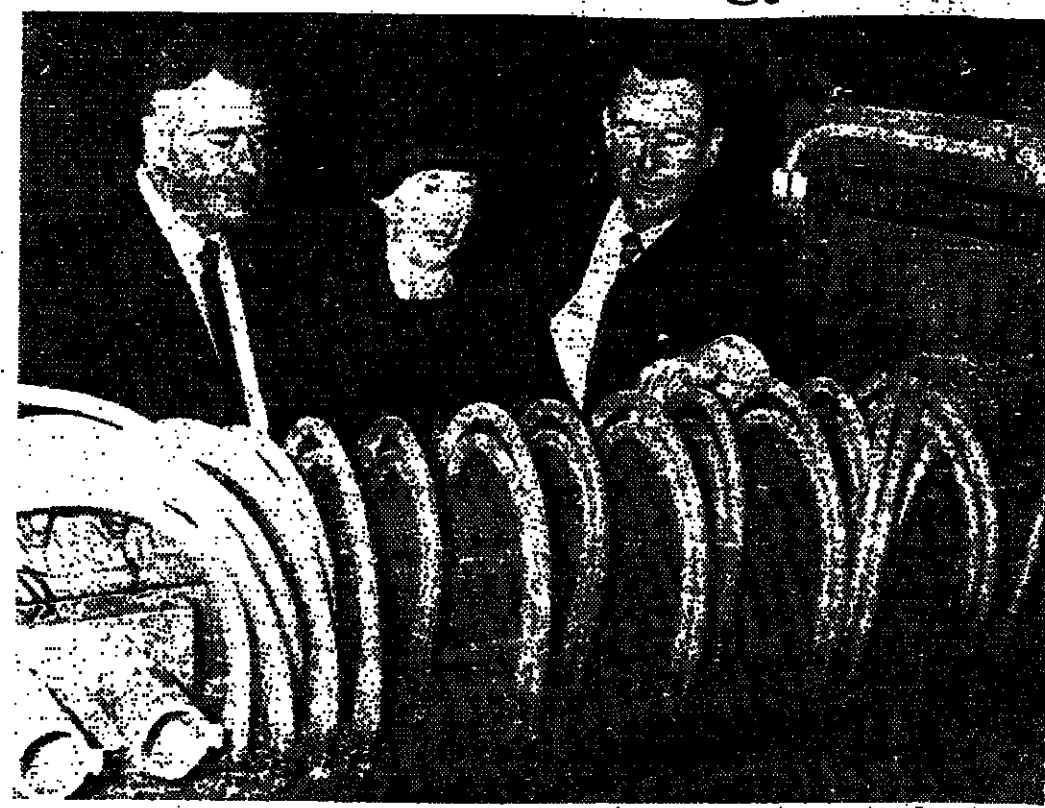
EMI Medical; Escal Products; Ethicon; Exploration and Production Services (North Sea); The military products division of F&W Engineering; Fletcher and Stewart; Foster Wheeler; GEC Turbine Generators; A Gallenkamp; Goodenough Pumps.

Craft Diamonds; Sir William Halcrow & Partners; John Harvey & Sons; Hattersley Newman Hender; Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering; Hunting Surveys and Consultants; IBIS Medical Equipment & Supplies; Inchcape; Inductron; The International marine coatings division of International Paint; Dick James Music.

Kandya Maredev; Kennedy & Donkin; Lesney Products; London American Finance Corporation; Kenneth Mackenzie Holdings; L. H. Mackerness; Marconi Instruments; Marconi International Marine; Marks and Spencer; Martin-Black.

Albert Martin Knitwear; May & Baker; Thomas Meadows; Michelia Tyre; The semiconductor products division of Motorola; Geo. Moulton Successors; North Devon Meat; Arthur F. Organ (Packaging Machinery); Pandrol; Josiah Parkes & Sons.

The management consultancy firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell; Perbow; Petrocarbon Developments; Phoenix Engineering; Platt, Saco Lowell; The Plessey Navvies division of Plessey Electronic Systems; Polaroid (UK); Portals Holdings; Quest Automation; Racal-Tacticon; Record Ridgeway.



White heat: Mr Harry Banyard (right), chairman and managing director of Banyard Metalheat Limited, his wife Jocelyn and fellow director Mr Don Martin—who formed the staff of the company when it started 10 years ago—looking at the induction coil of a large rapid-

heating electric induction furnace being assembled at Poole for export to France. It is part of a total induction heating installation for heating steel billets and ingots and is believed to be the largest furnace of its kind ever built in Europe.

P. A. Richerich; John Robson (Shipley); Rohm & Haas (UK); The Royal Mint; Ruston Gas Turbines; Seltrist Engineering; TI Simplex (Fans and Belts); Simpson Interline Trading; The submarine systems division of Standard Telephones and Cables; Stelmom.

Thos. Storey (Engineers); TAC Construction Materials; Taylor Woodrow International; Tequipment; Thermal Syndicate; The British Timken Division of the Timken Company; R. Twining; United Towing; Vosper Thornycroft; Enoch Wedgwood (Tunstall); Western Marine Construction; Sir Bruce White, Wolfe Barry & Partners; Whitehead Harbormaster; The engineering division of Wilkinson Sword; George Wimpey.

FOR TECHNOLOGY
Henry Cooke, Beetham, Milnthorpe—development of neutral sized transfer printing base paper specifically designed for textile transfer printing; The Hershman division of Decca Radar, Walton-on-Thames—development in conjunction with the Civil Aviation Authority, of the Decca Airfield Surface Movement Indicator Radar.

EMI-MEC, East Grinstead—development of a fully automatic plugboard controlled turning machine; The agrochemical division of Fisons, Cambridge—development of a selective herbicide which has particular application in weed control of sugar beet crops and is safe to use in rye grass for the control of other grasses.

The plant protection division of Imperial Chemical Industries, Haslemere—development of Pirimicarb, a new specific aphicide which is claimed to have high toxicity to all aphids; John Marley Research Centre, Reading—development of platinum alloy catalysts for pollution control in vehicle exhaust systems.

Land and Marine Engineering, Bromborough—development of techniques for the burial of sub-sea pipelines; The electrical division of Lucas Aerospace, Hemel Hempstead—development of a toroidal constant speed drive for aircraft generators.

Malvern Instruments, Malvern, Hereford and Worcester—for the Malvern Correlator, an instrument developed to study the fundamental fluctuations of light signals, usually laser light; Marconi Instruments, St Albans—development of a digital storage VHF spectrum analyser.

Marconi Space and Defence Systems, Stanmore—technological achievement with "Blind fire" radar system for use with the British Aircraft Corporation's "Raptor" low-level air defence missile system; Marwin Cutting Tools, Rothley, Leicester—development of a process for the production of helical tungsten carbide tips.

The Mining Research and Development Establishment of the National Coal Board, Stanhope Brethby, Burton-on-Trent—development of an in-seam mining machine; The National Vegetable Research Station—technological achievement in the production and supply of United Kingdom-grown bulb onions throughout the year.

Paxman Diesels, Colchester—development of a range of diesel engines which are compact and give up to 50 per cent greater power for their size; Pircraft, Hoyland Nether, S Yorkshire—development of a chainless haulage system for longwall working in mines.

Railko, High Wycombe—development of reinforced plastics arena shaft bearing materials; Ernest Scragg & Sons, Macclesfield—development of a friction twisting device for the production of textured man-made fibre yarns; Sorex (London); Wembley—development of new rodenticides for the control of rats and mice.

The East Asiatic Company Limited, Copenhagen

Annual Report 1976

GROUP PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1976

(rate of exchange per 31st December 1976: US-\$ 100 = D.kr. 578.39)

	1976 (1,000 kr)	1975 (1,000 kr)
Turnover	20,049,629	16,101,280
External turnover	15,198,210	12,948,006
Internal turnover	4,851,419	3,153,274
	20,049,629	16,101,280
Result of Activities		
Turnover and result of activities derive from:	External turnover	
Shipping	1,457,080	213,816
Trade	7,608,100	427,795
Industry	5,315,267	471,420
Forest and plantation industry	789,207	182,752
Miscellaneous income	48,556	24,822
	15,198,210	1,320,605
Dividend on investments outside the Group	17,467	16,848
Administration expenses	1,338,072	1,042,273
	353,968	323,133
Profit before Depreciation	979,104	714,140
Depreciation on fixed assets	268,025	223,841
Profit before Financing Expenses	711,079	490,299
Financing expenses	260,570	205,500
	450,509	284,799
Extraordinary income and expenses	33,827	29,449
Profit before Taxation	484,127	314,414
Corporation tax	214,761	161,898
Group Result for the Year	269,366	152,516
Minority shareholders' share in the results of subsidiary companies	109,118	48,657
The East Asiatic Company, Limited's share in the Group Result	160,248	103,859
(before allocation to the Parent Company's special contingency fund: 1976: kr 75 million 1975: kr 75 million)		

The moderate economic recovery, which was evident in a few major industrial countries, slackened again in the second half of the year, and world trade to-day presents a rather diverse picture in which, for instance, the very important shipping sector has shown no perceptible progress.

In the absence of signs of a general recovery, fluctuations in world economic conditions are to be expected in 1977, and in Denmark the economic development still depends on whether the rise in costs can be stabilized and competitiveness strengthened.

Thanks to the diversity and global activities of our Company, the Group accounts show an improvement in net profit from kr 153.1 million in 1975 to kr 269.4 million in 1976, and a rise in turnover from kr 16,100 million to kr 20,000 million in the same period.

The Parent Company's results for 1976 was a net profit of kr 109.8 million, against kr 91.1 million in 1975, after allocation of kr 75 million to the Special Contingency Fund, which now stands at kr 250 million, and after provision of kr 78.8 million for depreciation on ships, buildings, etc. and kr 47.3 million for corporation taxes.

With the addition of kr 23.6 million brought forward from last year, the amount at disposal totals kr 133.4 million which it is proposed to appropriate in accordance with the profit and loss statement, including distribution to shareholders of a dividend of 12 per cent of the share capital of kr 500 million, equal to a total amount of kr 60 million.

The legislation on dividend ceilings still prevents payment of the amount of kr 10 million, representing additional 2 per cent dividend provided for in 1973.

It is pertinent to mention already in the Introduction that in accordance with the Company's general policy and in keeping with the times, the process of transforming the remaining overseas branches into independent joint-stock companies is being pursued, having regard to the ultimate aim of gradually attracting local capital into these companies and, wherever possible, to include local staff as shareholders.

This process, incidentally, will gradually include these subsidiary companies in the Group accounts which, in turn, will become of increasing importance as the Company's primary accounts.

Copies of the full Report are available on request.

Head office: 2, Holbergsgade, DK-1099 Copenhagen K., Denmark



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Unilever in 1976

The year in brief

Sales for 1976 rose from £6,760 million to £8,731 million. Volume accounted for 8 per cent of this increase. Profits showed a good recovery as compared with the disappointing results in 1975. Restocking in the first half-year, particularly in Europe, contributed to these improved figures.

In Europe there was a major improvement in most product groups as compared with 1975. However, margins in general are still too low. Results in edible fats and other foods, chemicals, paper, plastics and packaging and animal feeds showed a marked recovery. Frozen foods and ice cream again did well. Our toilet preparations businesses showed further growth. Our two major meat companies continued to make operating losses. These were increased by heavy costs of restructuring in the United Kingdom.

In North America results were generally satisfactory. In most other countries outside Europe there was further sales and profit growth. UAC International contributed substantially to the higher 1976 results.

Exchange rates and their effect on reported figures

Almost all currencies were affected by the substantial variations in the floating rates of exchange. Sterling, the French franc and the Italian lira, all fell substantially against the guilder and Deutschmark, particularly. The dollar depreciated against the linked European currencies but appreciated against sterling, the franc and the lira. Our Accounts for 1976 have been prepared using the 1976 closing exchange rate of £1=FL 4.18. The 1975 accounts were prepared using the 1975 closing exchange rate of £1=FL 5.43. This 23 per cent depreciation of sterling against the guilder has a major effect on all our figures, as expressed respectively in each of our reporting currencies. In particular, increases in sales, profits, capital expenditure and net liquid funds, are all much greater when stated in depreciated sterling than when stated in appreciated guilders.

Had rates remained at end 1975 levels the increase in both sterling and guilders would have been 52 per cent in group operating profit. The difference between this and the actual sterling increase is almost entirely the result of the depreciation of sterling.

Finance

Dominant influences were the recovery of profits and increase in working capital, caused by higher raw material prices as well as by higher sales volume. Capital expenditure remained well above depreciation.

Our net liquid funds rose by £64 million of which £50 million was additional loan capital. Net liquid funds at the year-end represented a little under 5 per cent of the year's sales to third parties: the corresponding percentage both in 1975 and on average over the past 10 years was 4 per cent. The strength of our balance sheet gives us confidence that we can meet our heavy capital expenditure programme and any sudden increases in working capital arising from world inflation and raw material price fluctuations. During 1976 we spent a total of £14 million on acquisitions.

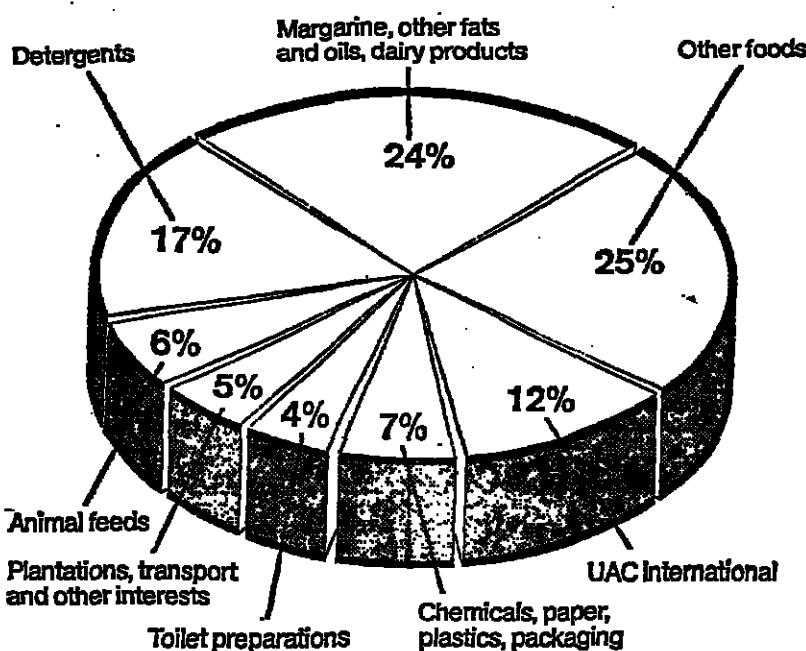
The economic background

Economic conditions in 1976 were more favourable than in 1975. There was a quite pronounced recovery from economic recession in the industrialised world in the first half of the year. Many mineral oil-exporting countries continued to boom. Some developing countries recorded another year of growth, all mineral oil-importing countries suffered from increased oil prices. The growing burden of external debt of some developing countries is a worrying feature of the world economic scene.

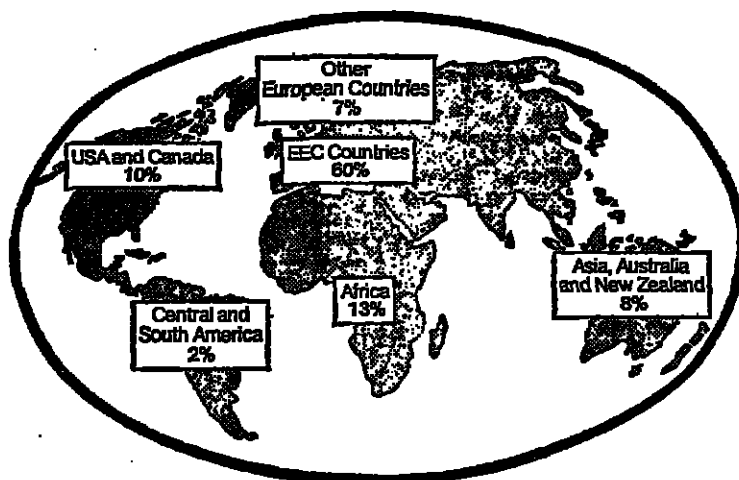
Inflation was not as severe in 1976 as it had been in 1974 and 1975 but it was still high. It averaged 11 per cent for the world in which Unilever operates.

However, levels of unemployment did not respond to the limited economic recovery and even rose in a number of countries.

The more favourable economic conditions have led to an increase in published profits in many countries, but the trend is to a decline in real profitability to levels which are too low—not least in our two home countries the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. There are signs that governments are becoming aware of the need to reverse this trend if new investment is to be made on the scale required for the healthy expansion of the world economy.

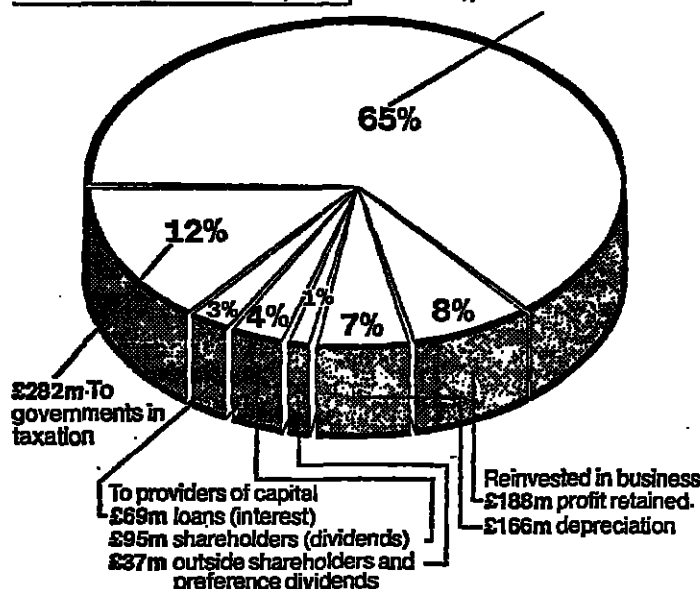


Selling a wide variety of products...



...in markets across the world...

Sales to third parties	£8,731m	How the value added was distributed:
Investment income	£ 48m	
	£8,779m	
Less cost of Materials and services purchased	£6,352m	
Value added	£2,427m	
		£1,590m To employees in wages, salaries, pension contributions



...to contribute to standards of living everywhere.



International developments

Three developments in the past year internationally have been of special interest to us.

First, the promulgation by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) of guidelines for multinational enterprises. We have publicly expressed our support for, and our determination to comply with, these guidelines which are very similar to the standards it has been our long-standing practice to observe. Our Report and Accounts meets the guidelines on disclosure of information. We attach great significance to the recognition by the governments of the OECD countries that they also have to respect certain rules, in particular that there should be no discrimination between nationally-owned and foreign-owned companies.

The second was the European Commission's totally unjustifiable proposal for a tax on edible oils and fats which attempted to deal with the structural surplus of milk in the Community, but only at the expense of another industry and its consumers. The proposal—without solving the dairy problem—would, moreover, increase the cost of living, and hamper exports from the developing countries.

The third development was the adoption by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) of a resolution to convene further meetings on an integrated programme for some 20 commodities. This seeks to protect the economies of developing countries by universal buffer stock schemes linked to the indexation of raw material prices. For edible oils and fats the practical difficulties of such an approach would be immense and in our view would be likely to disrupt the world market. We believe that the export income of developing countries would be better safeguarded by compensatory finance schemes, like those under the Lomé Agreement, rather than by interfering with the long-term balance of supply and demand.

Prospects

Inflation will remain high in most countries, with raw material costs expected to rise more rapidly than general inflation.

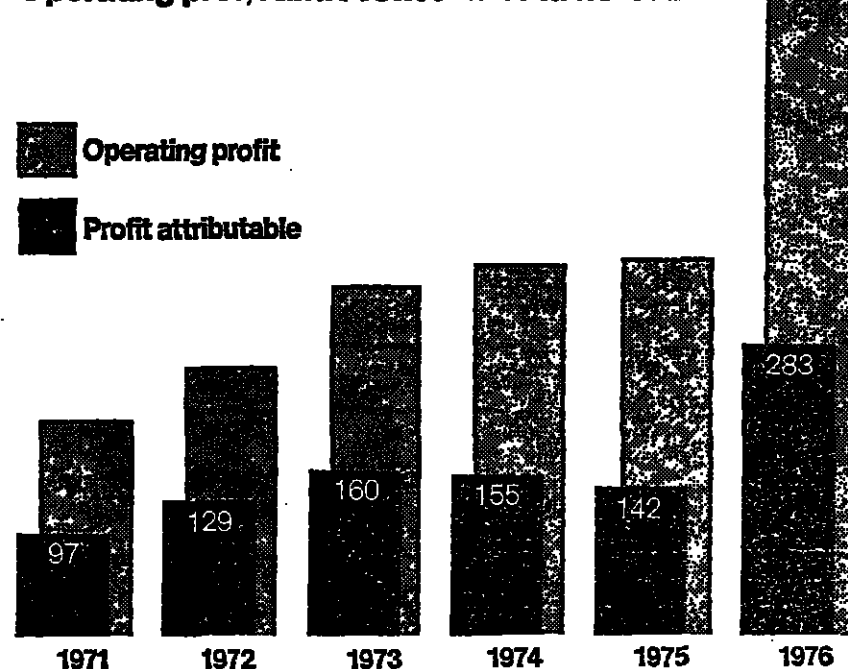
Unemployment is not likely to fall in the current year.

Industrial activity in the first few months of 1977 will not have the benefit of the considerable restocking that took place in the corresponding months of the previous year. While growth of the economies in which we operate is expected to be a little slower than last year, there should be reasonable growth in the particular market areas with which we are concerned. In general, our business is expected to make progress.

Employees

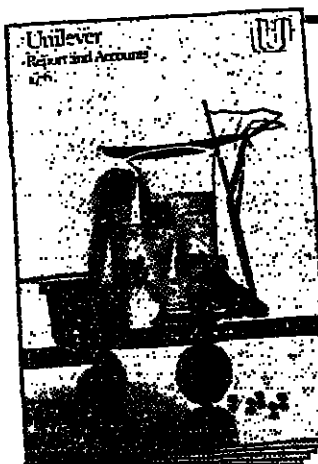
The progress that was achieved during the year was made possible only by the efforts of our employees throughout the business. We wish to record our warm thanks to them.

Operating profit and Profit attributable £ million



Unilever

Unilever comprises Unilever Limited, Unilever N.V. and their respective subsidiaries which operate in more than seventy countries. The Report and Accounts of Limited as usual combine the results and operations of Limited and N.V. with figures expressed in Sterling. Copies of the 1976 Report and Accounts have been posted to shareholders and holders of debentures and unsecured loan stock of Unilever Limited. If you would like to receive a copy please fill in the coupon. The Annual General Meeting of the Members of Unilever Limited will be held in The Queen's Room, The Baltic Exchange, 14-20 St. Mary Axe, London EC3, on Wednesday 11th May, 1977 at 11 a.m.



To: The Company Secretary, Unilever Limited,
Unilever House, London EC4P 4BQ.

Please send me a copy of your 1976 Report and Accounts.

Name

Address

BSC faces a squeeze on investment

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Worsening market conditions and little prospect of any significant improvement in demand before the end of this year have created problems for the British Steel Corporation in financing its investment programme.

Instead of making a considerable contribution towards capital and working capital requirements from internally generated funds in the current financial year, the BSC will be unable to provide any funds from its own resources. After tough negotiations with the Treasury and Department of Industry the BSC is being limited to a £950m ceiling on external financing under the cash limits system.

This was revealed to an all-party committee of MPs, who are investigating the affairs of the BSC, by civil servants from the two departments.

MPs said that last October there were suggestions that the BSC would be able to fund about half of the total capital requirements of more than £900m for the current year. This was subsequently revised downwards in the Public Expenditure White Paper to a BSC contribution of £204m.

This was later amended in the Budget statement to show that the BSC would, in fact, be unable to make any contribution to the programme from its own internally generated funds.

Mr Solomon Gross, Under-Secretary in charge of the Department of Industry's iron and steel division, told the subcommittee of the Nationalized Industries Committee that the steel industry had been in the grip of a serious recession and the upturn which was expected last autumn had not materialized. Consequently, trading prospects had changed drastically since the original forecasts.

"We feel that although trading prospects are bad we should encourage the BSC to invest," Mr Gross said.

Advertisement criticizes strikers: Management of the Port Talbot steelworks, which has been closed by an unofficial strike by 520 electricians, yesterday put an advertisement in Welsh newspapers criticizing the men's action. It said the strikers' claim was unrealistic, against the pay code, and exploitation of the introduction of new plant.

EEC fears over future of steel exports to America

From David Cross
Brussels, April 20

Growing concern in the EEC about future access of its steel products to the United States is being prominently in the days of talks between senior American and European Commission officials which opened here today.

The Community is trying to persuade the American Administration to be more helpful on imports of EEC special steels now restricted by tight quotas. It is also worried that a recent American court decision to levy duties on imports of Japanese electronic goods could spread to EEC steel generally.

The countervailing duties were imposed to offset Japanese export tax rebates similar to those refunded by the Community on steel exports, which have irritated American steel producers in the past.

Peter Hill writes: Calls for the British clothing industry to play a strong and active role in the European arena, particularly in discussions with the EEC Commission, were made yesterday.

Mr Norman Sturges, chairman of the British Clothing Industry's joint council, said that the British Clothing Industry Council for Europe had made a solid contribution to the work of the European Association of Clothing Industries, but that body was still not as effective as it should be.

Unit trusts total worst in six years

Unit trusts suffered their worst setback for six years last month, when net new investment dropped to £1.78m, according to March figures from the Unit Trust Association yesterday. Although sales of units were £3.8m higher than in February, at £26.9m, repurchases amounted to £25.2m, as against £20.2m for the previous month.

The latest figures confirm widespread reports over the past few weeks that the industry was experiencing a particularly high level of redemptions. In the event the level of net sales in March was the lowest since August, 1971, when they dropped to £250,000.

Mr Edgar Palfamontain, newly appointed chairman of the Unit Trust Association, said yesterday: "These figures reflect the squeezing of the clientele by inflation and tax." He said he was not discouraged by the figures for March, and claimed they did not show that investors were disillusioned.

A number of factors appear to have affected the level of redemptions. Investors have been attracted by the particularly attractive 16th issue of National Savings Certificates, which closed at the end of March and provided some strong competition for smaller savers.

The recent rise in the stock market has also given investors who are suffering a squeeze on their incomes an opportunity to sell units.

CBI sticks to 6pc pay rises for phase three

The Grand Council of the Confederation of British Industry yesterday instructed its leadership to stick to the policy that industry would allow no more than a 6 per cent increase in the national pay bill in the next phase of the pay policy.

Taking account of wage drift, this would mean a norm of around 3 per cent.

Lord Watkinson, president of the confederation, said last night that this sort of figure would mean an increase of around 10 per cent, part of it being wages and about 4.5 per cent coming through the Chancellor's promised tax benefits which were, of course, conditional upon a satisfactory wage deal being reached. This tax element by its nature would be non-inflationary.

He added that the CBI judgment was that if people got around this sum, they would just about keep pace with the cost of living.

The confederation is convinced that there will be a third phase, but that it will probably not be settled until at least July.

Lord Watkinson had dinner earlier this week with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and other Cabinet ministers, and has made his position clear to the Government. He will outline the same facts to the Trades Union Congress at a private dinner next week.

The confederation, Lord Watkinson said, was determined that any pay deal should be one which meant British industry could pull back inflation to a rate compatible with its main competitors. This meant a rate of inflation of no more than 5 per cent by mid-1978.

The confederation is clearly not too keen on the idea of kiddy bargaining. It is felt that this might provide the same sort of escape hatch as productivity bargains did in Mr Heath's phase two, Lord Watkinson said. He hoped that by the May council, the CBI would have prepared its major discussion document on pay determination, which looks beyond phase three.

BP in rock fibre venture

British Petroleum and Rockwool, a private Danish company, are to set up a £10m plant in Britain to spin fibres out of molten rocks.

The fibres can then be turned into mats and moulded into a wide range of insulation products. BP said yesterday it was holding discussions with Rockwool about a site for a 14,000 tonnes a year plant, at first employing 100 people.

It hopes to have the plant operational in 1979. The Rockwool process, which is already used in Scandinavia, Germany, Holland and Switzerland, involves spinning fibres from molten rock heated to 1,500 deg C. They are then resin bonded and cured.

Prior attack on Bullock implications

By Malcolm Brown

Mr James Prior, the Opposition spokesman on employment, said yesterday that those behind the majority Bullock Report on industrial democracy were much more interested in undermining shareholders' rights and in extending union privileges than they were in giving employees a say over the matters that affected them and in improving economic performance.

Speaking in London at a Financial Times conference on industrial relations, Mr Prior said that because the Government had stated its intention to press ahead with legislation based on majority Bullock, positive developments towards greater employee involvement were being set back. This was a tragedy.

"I do not believe that they will be able to impose such disruptive legislation in the face of the implacable hostility of those who are going to have to make it work. But as long as the threat is there, employers and unions are less willing to go ahead in devising and implementing schemes suited to their own circumstances."

Mr Pat Lowry, director of personnel, British Leyland, said: "The move from a system which is conflict based to something more constructive must commence at the place where the conflict has been bred. It is at that level that mutual trust must start to replace deep-seated suspicions."

Leyland may urge early government decision

By Edward Townsend

Pressure from British Leyland for an early government decision on the car company's future may increase next week after Ministers have received copies of the Leyland board's wide-ranging review of its operations and investment strategy.

Although the company's car division has imposed a three-month ban on capital spending, directors are likely to stress that the lack of a speedy conclusion on the review will be a further blow to morale.

With the company's domestic market share falling to about 22 per cent, it will be argued that a review about the future model programme, particularly among dealers, must be dispelled quickly.

The review, although not yet written, is expected to receive final approval from the Leyland board on Friday and be sent to the National Enterprise Board and the Department of Industry next week.

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has already made clear that a decision may not be made until the summer. This would allow Whitehall to monitor the company's progress in achieving a more stable industrial relations climate.

He has stressed that approval for the next tranche of state funds, for which Leyland is due to apply in midsummer, is dependent on achieving and maintaining consistently high levels of car output.

It seems certain that the Leyland board's review will list the various options it considers are now open and will recommend measures that will involve a considerable scaling down of the 10-year Ryder plan.

Leyland management is in favour of retaining the £250m plan to build a replacement for the Mini, although the Government considers this to be one of the most vulnerable of Leyland Cars' projects.

There has also been pressure for priority to be switched from the Mini successor to a new range to replace the Marina and Allegro models.

More laid off in Jaguar dispute

By R. W. Shakespeare

More workers at Leyland's Jaguar car plant at Coventry have been laid off.

The Jaguar standstill, affecting both the assembly plant at Browns Lane, Coventry, and the nearby Radford components factory results from a strike by 80 internal truck drivers demanding reclassification into a higher pay grade.

Some 3,000 workers at the assembly plant are laid off. Yesterday 1,500 men who had been on strike from the Radford factory since the previous day, reported for work but were immediately sent home because there was no work for them. All Jaguar car production is halted.

At Halewood on Merseyside, 8,000 Ford car workers are laid off.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Obsolete plant and productivity in the British Steel Corporation

From Mr. Jonathan Ayles

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr. Renton ("A warning against wasting money to try to save a sick steel industry," April 15), is right to argue that money should not be wasted in trying to maintain obsolete open hearth steelmaking within the British Steel Corporation, notably at Shotton in North Wales.

In evidence to the Select Committee on Nationalized Industries to be published next week we show that production labour in open hearth plants have, on average, a labour productivity only a third of that realized in oxygen steelmaking shops, while the best oxygen shops have a labour productivity ten times that of the worst open hearth shop. The fuel costs alone for open hearth steelmaking are equal to the total running costs for a replacement oxygen steelmaking shop.

Mr. Renton is unduly pessimistic in his belief that the British Steel Corporation will be unable to reduce its manning levels to international standards. We are also able to show that manning levels for production labour engaged in iron and steelmaking are closely related to the age and size of furnace and type of technology used. The newer, larger, up-to-date show productivity levels substantially and systematically higher than their older, smaller counterparts.

New plant is necessary to ensure that these lower manning levels are realized throughout the corporation. Not that new plant is sufficient by itself; management flair will also be required to reduce manning levels for non-production labour which accounts for over 70 per cent of those engaged in iron and steelmaking activities within the BSC.

But surely the point of greatest concern was missed by Mr. Renton, namely the long delays in obtaining government go-ahead for new projects. The Japanese built and commissioned a six million tonne integrated steelworks at Obayama from scratch in 24 months. The government took 27 months merely to sanction the Port Talbot expansion. Nor is this an isolated instance.

Delays in sanctioning the new Redcar blast furnace, and more recently, the Redcar plate mill and delays in permitting the closure of obsolete, high cost works might also be cited. A sick government machine is itself wasting money by imposing avoidable delays on the British Steel Corporation and preventing the necessary introduction of new, lower-cost plants. Yours sincerely, JONATHAN AYLES, Department of Economics and Geography, University of Salford, Salford, M5 4WT, April 18.

Engineers: earning authority and status in a commercial world

From Mr. G. E. P. Constable

Sir, Mr. Metz (April 14) urged that engineers should have more authority over their own—and the nation's—future, but though important, should this problem be our first priority? Authority and status, both elusive commodities, are seldom conferred as of right and usually have to be earned.

Our economic survival still depends upon exporting manufactured products which have to compete in terms of many factors including price, performance, delivery reliability and maintainability. All of these depend fundamentally upon design.

In 1939-45, when the threat was just as real if more clearly perceived, the Spitfire, the Lancaster and "radio location" showed the true worth of engineers to the nation. Cannot engineers now repeat earlier design achievements—but in commercial terms—and solve their problems of status while doing so?

Yours faithfully, G. E. P. CONSTABLE, Head of Engineering Design, Design Council, The Design Centre, 28 Haymarket, London, SW1, April 19.

Amazon tycoons please apply...

From Ms Jean Rothwell Holt

Sir, I am increasingly amazed by the advertisements for secretaries which appear in your columns. It is requested that most applicants need a sense of humour and I would think that one would help while reading through the advertisements. It appears that in addition to a sense of humour secretaries today need a dazzling personality, an ability to host luncheon parties and an immaculate appearance together with an unflappable telephone manner and an ability to take over completely if necessary.

Perhaps it would be more realistic for the companies concerned to advertise for budding Amazon tycoons and a corresponding increase in the offered salary to at least £8,000 pa.

Yours faithfully, JEAN ROTHWELL HOLT, Stoney Cottage, Melton Abbas, Dorset, April 4.

The sticky-sided diminishing pound

From Mr. M. Eldridge

Sir, We are in the era of audio-visual aids. To remind us all of the declining value of the purchasing pound may I suggest that, in future, when new bank notes are printed, their size should be reduced by the percentage by which the value of the pound has fallen during the previous 12 months?

As an additional advantage, while the pound note would never completely disappear, one side should be made adhesive so that when in a year or two the pound note is only an inch square and the GPO charges us £1 to deliver a letter, we may dispense with stamps altogether?

Yours faithfully, MARK ELDRIDGE, 9 South Park Gardens, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, March 31.

The 30-day tax return deadline

From Mr. J. R. Ridges

Sir, Presumably all other taxpayers besides myself have received a request to fill up their income tax returns "within 30 days".


The form I received on April 9 was dated April 6, 1977. Can a word in your columns persuade the authorities to give the taxpayer more time to fill up his form correctly before being liable to a prosecution or fine?

Between now and May 6 some taxpayers are likely to be on holiday, abroad, or ill. Most taxpayers will have not yet received their dividend vouchers or bank statements from the bank for March and up to April 5. Most firms cannot be expected to notify their thousands of employees and pensioners when tax credit has been made and the gross income of each one within a few days of the financial year end.

Similarly, tax accountants are unlikely to be able to complete the checks on all their clients' accounts with the necessary interviews within the 30 days.

Accuracy in this matter is more important than speed, but if the request for the return of the form within this short period is adhered to, will the authorities please be good enough to state that the request has "no binding force" which they modestly claim does not apply to the nine page notes which accompany the document.

Yours faithfully, J. R. RIDGES, 16 Western Terrace, Terrace, New Earswick, York YO3 8BW, April 14.




1977

THE QUEEN'S AWARD TO INDUSTRY

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in recognition of outstanding export achievement



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For the UK, Edward W. M. Page, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Taylor Woodrow Construction Ltd, 345 Ruslip Road, Southall, Middlesex. (Tel: 01-578 2366, Telex 24426)


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A major international group manufacturing building products, electrical equipment, engineering components and non-ferrous metals.

"Higher profits...from greater efficiency in the U.K."

"Continuing good profits of overseas companies"

"Exports increased by 33% to £55 million" Lord Caldecote, Chairman



- * Profits before tax of £25 million equivalent to £10 million on C.C.A. basis.
- * Major recovery in results but efforts continue to improve still inadequate profits.
- * Much higher overseas profits demonstrate success of overseas investment policy.
- * Strong growth in export volume results from further building on sound foundations.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	1976	1975
	£	£
Sales - External	427,530,000	339,430,000
Profit before tax	24,610,000	11,630,000
Attributable profit	11,780,000	3,640,000

For each 25p Ordinary Share

Earnings	8.8p	2.9p
Dividends	4.493p	4.085p
Net assets	87p	68p

DISTRIBUTION OF ADDED VALUE

To Employees 71%	To Lenders 7%
To Shareholders 7%	To Governments 5%

For Maintenance and expansion of assets 10%

Copies of the full report and accounts available from the Secretary, The Delta Metal Company Limited, 7 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6XF.

DELTA

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Burmah restores its balance sheet



Mr. Alastair Down, chairman of Burmah Oil, at last seeing benefits from asset disposals.

After two years of unremittingly bad news, Burmah's balance sheet has been restored to a state of relative health. The company's last major loss, a £1.5m deficit, was a result of the sale of its oil tanker fleet. The group's last major loss, a £1.5m deficit, was a result of the sale of its oil tanker fleet.

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Capitalization £86.8m
Net assets £119.28m (£93.4m)
Borrowings £79.83m (£63.52m)
Pre-tax profit £24.6m (£11.63m)
Earnings per share 8.8p (2.9p)

Unilever

More liquid than ever

Unilever is looking forward to further volume growth in the current year though no faster than the 31 per cent growth rate of the main economies it operates in against a real increase of more than double that last year.

But the key to any marked increase in profitability lies in improving European margins with this area still accounting for 72 per cent of capital employed. Last year the pre-tax return on capital employed rose from 10 to 16 per cent but that is a long way short of some of the other areas it operates in, noticeably Africa and the 21 per cent achieved across the business as a whole.

The balance sheet is as strong as ever with net liquid funds up from £268m to £406m last year. Certainly if last year's rise in net working capital of £273m is any guide that sort of muscle will be needed to cover capital spending half as much again at £348m and already booming.

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Phase three: how to relax without losing control

The Scottish TUC has rejected a mineworkers' call for a resumption of free collective bargaining. But the debate on what exactly is to follow the present stage of wage control goes on. Caroline Atkinson examines some of the difficulties involved.

What will be the wage bargaining structure after phase three ends on July 30 and what level of pay settlements will result from it? The answers to these questions have become harder to find in the last three weeks of preliminary skirmishing by the Government and unions over the desired shape and size of a third round of pay control.

Neither side has the more so far than express its intention to pursue an agreement—and list the difficulties involved. Mr. Healey may break this deadlock by his speech to the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers planned for this Sunday.

The gap between the unions and the Government may have been widened by the publication of negotiating positions and the opposition in the country at large to a further year of tightly-controlled incomes.

An effective incomes policy must be down simple and clear-cut guidelines for pay settlements. But a policy which is to survive next year must be flexible enough to relieve the strains built up in the first two years of rigid controls.

The strength and weakness of the last two rounds of pay control have been rooted in their simplicity, which made them easy to observe and police, but led to anomalies which must now be at least partially removed.

There is a strong institutional and economic pressure for local negotiations. Mr. Jack Jones, the architect of the first two rounds of incomes policy,

has said publicly that local union negotiators should be given the power to determine wage settlements in any third year of pay policy and the Chancellor has indicated that Mr. Jones' views are very close to his own.

Kitly bargaining, where limits are set for negotiating groups and which was first floated by Mr. Albert Booth, the Employment Secretary, a little under three weeks ago, seems at first glance a way of resolving the needs for simplicity and flexibility and for an economy-wide limit on earnings which never allows local bargaining.

It is probably still the preferred solution of the Government, although it has come under increasing fire from the unions who fear that it will "set workers against workers" instead of against management.

The union opposition to the idea gives a hint of the problems left hidden by the catch phrase. Who will determine the size of the kitly? If it is laid down in national agreement, the scope for local bargaining to improve the lot of their members will be severely limited and will depend on their ability to make a case for receiving a larger share of the kitly than some other group of workers.

That leads to the problem of the definition of the kitly group. Many companies at present negotiate with a multitude of different unions with different objectives. A "company" kitly would be very difficult to divide up in, for example, British Leyland. However, a division by normal negotiating

groups would probably be workable.

The other issue which would have to be settled nationally if kitly bargaining is to function as part of an incomes policy is the coverage of the kitly. It is unlikely that a kitly of the size which would be acceptable to Mr. Healey would seem adequate to union negotiators.

For a large part of the difficulty in reaching agreement on a third round of pay control comes simply from the fact that a policy must aim to keep wage increases below those which would result from free collective bargaining and below the present 16.7 per cent inflation rate, while resistance to a policy comes from a natural desire to boost incomes badly hit by a combination of inflation and wage control.

The Chancellor has been careful to avoid mention of any figure for an acceptable level of wage increases in the next pay round. The assumption in the budget statement of an average earnings increase in 1977-78, the same magnitude as occurred under the present round gives a good clue, however. That increase will probably be less than 10 per cent.

An end result of 10 per cent for the coming year would require a much lower "norm" if the higher growth of the money supply. Large wage settlements would still be possible, and would benefit those

who won them, but they would lead ultimately to fewer jobs. The psychological effect on union bargainers of the present controls on money may be more important than their economic effect, especially in the short term when change in the velocity of circulation can accommodate larger changes in nominal gross domestic product than in the money supply.

Another factor is the high level of unemployment and the still depressed state of the labour market. The power workers' union has called for wage rises of 11 to 14 per cent, which must be in part a reflection of the present weak demand position.

The recent education of union leaders, and their members in the connection between high money wage increases, faster inflation, a depreciating pound and an eventual erosion of the increases won would be bound to moderate their wage demands.

Finally, the tax cuts announced in the Budget, and the probable easing of the rate of inflation after this summer, will boost real incomes and thus could lead to more moderate wage demands than now seem likely.

The biggest danger of a free for all, and thus the strongest argument in favour of some kind of nationally agreed pay policy, is that large, widely publicized deals won by strong unions in the pay year would lead to an attempt by all unions to catch up. An agreement which came gradually to be broken through the pay year would at least have the advantage of securing low settlements in the early part of the year.

It is a great advantage to be the limit imposed on public sector wages. An incomes policy for the whole economy makes it easier for the Government to negotiate low settlements with its own employees, although the cash limits system now imposes a discipline on central and local government wages even without a formal pay policy.

Kingdom industry to enter this field could present the diesel makers with serious capacity and supply constraints. Already there is concern about insufficient domestic capacity for the production of cylinder heads and blocks, which has prompted an urgent NEDO study.

Airing of these common problems within the working party is seen as valuable, apart from the more important aspect of bringing a sensitive industry into a closer relationship with government. But whether a detailed plan for the future will emerge from the group remains in doubt.

Edward Townsend

Industrial strategy 7: Diesel engines

More heavy work to be done

When the Government earmarked the diesel engine industry for special study and support, it was hoped that long-term objectives would be formulated to keep manufacturers in the forefront of a rapidly expanding world business.

In the wake of the oil crisis there was an upsurge in interest in diesel engines. It was clearly felt that the successful and highly export-conscious United Kingdom manufacturers could, with the full backing of the state, be a major force in spearheading the revitalizing of British industry.

The sector working party on industrial engines sponsored by the National Economic Development Office concluded at the outset that there were substantial growth opportunities over the next decade. In practice, however, it appeared to have been difficult for the working party to agree on the necessity of a blanket strategy and, even more, to obtain commercially sensitive information, such as market forecasts and expansion plans.

In particular it is felt that a strategy is being forced upon an industry that does not exist as an entity. Diesel engine manufacture covers a number of distinct products, each with its own peculiar problems.

However, in an attempt to put the whole industry into context, the latest progress report from the working party stresses that Britain is among the world's leading producers of diesels, with an estimated 16 per cent volume share of world production. In the period 1972-

75, United Kingdom diesel engine exports rose from 35 per cent to 40 per cent of total production, excluding parts and marine diesels over 2,500 bhp.

It adds a note of warning, however, that, although inadequate, there are some official statistical indications of a slower rate of growth in exports than in world trade as a whole. Import penetration of the home market in the period 1972-75 has risen rapidly from 6.2 per cent to 12.4 per cent.

The Government's target growth rate for the diesel industry of 8 per cent per year has clearly come under fire within the working group and the reason for not setting any growth target at present is given as "several important information gaps".

The report identified other difficulties, such as uncertainty in world markets, the closing of individual markets by national policies and the sector's dependence on end-users.

As a result, a NEDO study, led by the British Internal Combustion Engine Manufacturers' Association and working party member companies, has been put in hand in the hope of getting a better view of world markets.

The rate of expansion in diesel production in Europe is not known and it is therefore difficult to establish whether the United Kingdom companies are winning or losing market share. Certainly, large investments are being made, particularly in engines for light commercial vehicles, while fierce Japanese efforts to win a major share of similar markets in the

United States should be of concern to British manufacturers.

At home, the main investments of recent times have been made by Perkins, Cummins Engine and CAV, the Lucas diesel injection subsidiary. Cummins has won large government grants for its £30m Scottish expansion programme which will create 1,200 new jobs by 1980 and double output to 90 heavy duty engines a day.

Perkins is spending about £15m on new facilities, while CAV, one of the world's leading independent suppliers of injection equipment, is investing £35m, including a slice of public money obtained under the accelerated projects scheme.

Gardner has also qualified for support under the scheme for its factory expansions and, in total, projects worth £46m have been helped with government funds.

Generally, however, the industry is hostile towards state aid and suspicions have been aggravated by the knowledge that the National Enterprise Board has been drawing up its own plans for it.

Another aspect of diesel production that the Government wants to see explored is the potential for diesel-powered cars. At present, only 1 per cent of world car output is equipped with diesels.

Any moves by the United

Kingdom industry to enter this field could present the diesel makers with serious capacity and supply constraints. Already there is concern about insufficient domestic capacity for the production of cylinder heads and blocks, which has prompted an urgent NEDO study.

Airing of these common problems within the working party is seen as valuable, apart from the more important aspect of bringing a sensitive industry into a closer relationship with government. But whether a detailed plan for the future will emerge from the group remains in doubt.

Edward Townsend

S. Pearson & Son

Preliminary Announcement of 1976 Results

Group Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31st December

	1976	1975
Profit of the group before taxation	38,583	25,019
Deduct proportion attributable to:		
Minority interests	10,045	6,243
Period prior to acquisition	2	2
Profit before taxation attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd	28,536	18,774
Taxation thereon	14,048	10,468
Net profit attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd	14,488	8,306
before extraordinary items		
Extraordinary items less minority interests and taxation	3,152	81
Net surplus including extraordinary items	17,644	8,387
Dividends		
Preference shares 3.5%		
Ordinary shares	17	17
Interim	2.0p	(1.4p)
Second interim 4.10438p (4.14223p—final)	2,808	2,823
Surplus retained and added to reserves	14,836	5,563
Earnings per ordinary share, before extraordinary items	21.24p	12.17p

NOTES:

1. Due to the adoption of the method of valuation of stocks and work in progress set out in statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 9 the profit of the group before taxation has been increased by £1,146,000 and net profit attributable by £668,000.

2. Dividend
The directors have declared a second interim ordinary dividend for the year to 31st December 1976 of 4.10438p per share which, together with the previous interim dividend paid of 2.0p makes a total for the year of 6.10438p, the maximum permitted. The second interim dividend will be paid on 3rd June 1977 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 8th May 1977. The annual general meeting will be held on 27th May 1977.

3. The directors intend to recommend to shareholders that if the rate of advance corporation tax for 1977/78 is reduced a final ordinary dividend in respect of 1976 be paid later in the year of each amount of 2p well ensure that total gross ordinary dividends for the year are maintained at the maximum permitted under current legislation.

3. Attributable profits before taxation £000 | £000 || Whitwell Trust Ltd (Lessee) | 6,556 | 9,956 |
| Person Longman Ltd (Publishing) | 12,019 | 6,035 |
| Douton & Co. Ltd. (Ceramics, Glass and Engineering) | 10,888 | 7,076 |
| Midwest Corporation (North American interests) | 2,110 | 1,385 |
| Other interests | 246 | (312) |
| | 31,619 | 21,541 |
| Person head office: interest and expenses | 3,281 | 2,867 |
| | 28,338 | 18,774 |

There's an amusing Freudian slip in Leslie Fries's new book *Shareholder Rights* (W. H. Allen, £3.75) in which he advises anybody plotting to take over a public company to build up their information with the help of "microfilm" techniques.

Whereas the figures above include £1,219,000 from A. W. Bain Holdings in 1975, they include only £271,000 in 1976.

4. Turnover (excluding banking and investment income) 1976 | 1975 || Person Longman | 129,277 | 108,298 |
| Douton & Co. | 149,382 | 118,440 |
| Other | 11,327 | 1,941 |
| | 289,986 | 228,679 |

5. Extraordinary items
Net surplus (deficit) on:
Realisation of interests in associated company
(1975, subsidiaries)
Realisation of properties
Revaluation and realisation of investments held for the long term 3,320 | 405 || | 81 | 385 |
| Closure of factory of an associated company | (180) | 630 |
| Goodwill written off | (28) | (1,158) |
| Miscellaneous | 3,152 | 81 |

6. Taxation
Total taxation including overseas taxes (1975-7,222)
Deduct: Properties attributable to minority interests and pre-acquisition profits 19,094 | 13,610 || | 5,048 | 3,142 |

*The sale of A. W. Bain Holdings in 1976 has resulted in a reduction of £948,000 in the profits attributable to Whitwell Trust from this source.

Attributable to S. Pearson & Son, Ltd. 14,048 | 10,468 |

Business Diary: Jesse Boot boys rule, OK?

When Jesse Boot, the founder of Boots the Chemists, wanted to advertise the need to hire a brass band to parade the streets.

Today, however, it's all much more subdued for the present chairman and chief executive, Dr. Gordon Hobday, who has never relied on publicity and has grown to like it even less.

Twice in recent years he has led his team into the spotlight, once to bid for drug manufacturers Glaxo, and once for the House of Fraser stores group—both times to be told by the Monopolies Commission that the deals were not in the public interest.

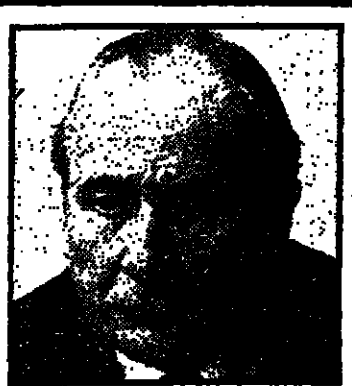
Yesterday, however, Hobday and members of his team steeled themselves like little lads screwing up the courage to swallow Boots' castor oil to leave Nottingham for a rare public visit to London in order to discuss management changes in this, the firm's centenary year.

Hobday, a lifelong Bootsman and research chemist is to remain as chairman but is to retire as chief executive, on May 1, handing over his duties to no fewer than three others.

Primus inter pares, to slip into prescription latin, to be Douglas Appleby who will move over from being finance director to managing director of the Group, The Boots Company.

Alan Spencer, the operations director, will become managing director of Boots the Chemists, the retailer subsidiary which provides two-thirds of the profits.

Lastly, Dr. Peter Main, an R & D man (absent yesterday), will become chief executive of the industrial division which provides the other third and is



If the chairman says it's a centenary, then it's a centenary: Left to right, Boots' Douglas Appleby, Gordon Hobday and Alan Spencer in London yesterday. Pictures by David Jones.

still gaining on Spencer's patch.

It is more complicated to describe the Boots centenary year. The company celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1938, a year before Hobday joined.

That, however, was the anniversary of the legal foundation of the company. This being royal jubilee year and the year of Hobday's retirement, 1968 has been discarded in favour of 1977, the centenary of Jesse Boot's taking control of the business started by his mum.

Talking of mums, Jesse—who died as Lord Trent in 1931—later operated Boots with his wife Florence as personnel manager and buyer.

Although Hobday now reckons that one in three of the country's women visits a Boots shop every week, there is now not a woman to be seen on either the group board or on any of the five management committees.

Hobday has, however, preserved one tradition. He has concentrated Boots R & D on anti-rheumatism drugs and helped develop Brufen for use against rheumatoid arthritis—the disease that crippled Jesse Boot.

Wegenstein, Swiss-born head of management consultants Knight, Wegenstein, was called in during 1974 by a transport ministry no longer prepared to go on footing the bill with our radical change. After an 18-month study into just half the business he recommended changes yielding a 20 per cent cut in both deficit and manpower over five years, during which, to sweeten the unions, there would be no compulsory redundancy and little new recruitment.

Although formally appointed by the railway management, Wegenstein took care to work closely throughout with the men, not through the union direct but through the works councils elected by workers and paid by management to represent manpower interests

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Business appointments

Royal Dutch supervisory board names

Mr G. A. Wagner and Mr L. Wormser are to be proposed for appointment to the supervisory board of Royal Dutch Petroleum on May 12. Mr Wagner is retiring on June 30 as president of Royal Dutch Petroleum and chairman of the committee of managing directors of Royal Dutch/Shell. Mr P. M. van Dornaal and Mr William McChesney Martin, Jr, are retiring from the board.

Mr K. G. Smith, pensions manager of the British Steel Corporation, is to become chairman of The National Association of Pension Funds from May 1.



Mr James Sanger, new finance director of James Burroughs.

Mr David Stevens has been elected deputy chairman of Drayton Consolidated Trust. Mr J. F. G. Emma, Mr J. Linbourn and Mr C. R. Harris have been elected to the board of Estates House Investment Trust. Mr James J. Johnson has been appointed vice-president of marketing for the Singer Co.

Mr Christopher Hayman and Mr James Sanger join the board of James Burroughs. Mr Sanger as finance director. Mr W. C. Poploe has been appointed a director of Peak Investments. Mr J. Bood and Mr W. T. Bowden have resigned from the board, but remain directors of Peak Trailers.

Mr W. Wilson Evans becomes deputy managing director of J. & W. Kerr Group, remaining financial director. Mr John Hendrie, a director and secretary of the group, has been made, in addition, company secretary of all group subsidiaries. Mr Peter Berrie, a group director and a director of J. & W. Kerr Fabrications, becomes also managing director of J. & W. Kerr Engineering.

American GNP rate doubles, but pace of inflation also accelerates

From Frank Vogl
Washington, April 20

America's economy grew at a far faster rate in the first quarter of this year than was widely predicted; but, as was expected, the rate of inflation also increased.

Real gross national product (GNP) rose at exactly twice the annual rate recorded in the final quarter of last year, with an advance of 5.2 per cent, according to preliminary seasonally adjusted data.

The GNP chain price index, which the United States Commerce Department considers to be the most accurate inflation measure in the GNP figures, rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.6 per cent, against a 5.7 per cent rate recorded in the previous quarter. Today's figures lend some

support both to President Carter's claim of last week that the economy does not need additional stimulus and to his recently announced anti-inflation campaign. Leading economists, including Dr James Tobin of Yale University and Dr Milton Friedman of the University of Chicago, have stated this week that the anti-inflation strategy is too weak and will not work.

But today, Mr Michael Blumenthal, the Secretary of the Treasury, defended the aim of bringing the inflation rate down to 4 per cent by late 1979. He told a congressional committee: "We have set a moderate, but achievable target."

This is particularly so because contrary to the hopes of some government economists, the new figures show that personal consumption expenditures rose in

the last quarter no faster than in the final quarter of 1976—up \$34,800m against a rise of \$33,500m.

Moreover, the pattern of consumer spending in the first quarter has some disturbing elements. Spending on non-durable goods was up by only \$7,700m, compared to a rise that was twice as great in the previous three months. Spending on motor cars showed a rise ten times as high as that seen in the previous quarter, at \$10,500m.

A modestly encouraging aspect of the new figures is that business fixed investment showed an increase three times as large as that recorded in the final quarter of 1976. The increase, amounting to \$7,500m in the first quarter, is still, however, below what most economists see as necessary.

Call to scrap isoglucose tax proposal

From David Cross
Brussels, April 20

A British company which has invested £8m in a plant to manufacture isoglucose today made a last attempt to persuade the European Community to abandon a swingeing production tax on the new natural sweetener.

At a press conference in Brussels, Lord Jellicoe, chairman of Tunnel Refineries, of Greenwich, said that the proposed £28 a tonne tax would make the production of isoglucose "totally uneconomic".

The planned levy on isoglucose is part of the European Community's annual farm price review. The Community's sugar beet producers, who fear competition from isoglucose, favour the tax.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Regional newspaper rebound pushes S Pearson by £10m

By Ray Maughan

Boosted by a powerful regional newspaper recovery, strong book publishing interests and further growth from its London glassware subsidiary, S. Pearson & Sons pushed pre-tax profits ahead by almost £10m to £28.54m in 1976.

The Whitehall Trust, Pearson's financial services arm, which takes in Lazard's merchant bank, was the only division to stall. Its drop from £5.96m to £5.56m at the pre-interest level, however, is more than accounted for by the sale of A. W. Bain Holdings which meant a £248,000 hole in income. Eastman's Trust, bought at the tail end of the year, will contribute income of £500,000 in a full 12 months while the 1.46m shares acquired in part-consideration for Bain in international trader, Inchcape, will add a further £250,000 so the income gap is not yet quite filled.

Pride's place should go to Pearson Longman, the newspaper and publishing subsidiary, comprising the Financial Times, Westminster Press, Penguin Publishing and Ladybird Books. Trading profits increased by £10m to £19.87m. So S. Pearson's 63.56 per cent stake yields a pre-interest contribution of £12.02m against £6.04m. Longman Holdings increased by £3m to £8m while the subsidiary which owns the Financial Times newspaper made £24.5m against £10.8m.

The contribution of the wholly owned Doukton subsidiary, which also takes in sani-



Lord Cowdray, chairman of S. Pearson.

tary ware, ceramics and electrical engineering, increased from £7.08m to £10.89m.

The current trend throughout the group is described as promising and all divisions have enjoyed a good first quarter.

Shares in Pearson Longman started 6p yesterday to 123p where a maximum permitted gross total dividend of 8.28 per share yields 14.6 per cent.

The holding company is paying a second interim dividend of 6.18p per share bringing the gross total up to 9.35p. The shares rose 4p to 136p to give a yield of 14.6 per cent.

Travis & Arnold takes off in second-half

By Ashley Druker

Just slightly ahead after six months from £1.65m to £1.81m pre-tax, Travis & Arnold appears to have been unduly cautious in September. Though still going well the board looked to second-half profits matching those of the opening leg. In the event this builders' and plumbers' merchant and timber importer turns in taxable profits jumping 55 per cent from £2.73m, for the preceding 10 months, to a best-ever £4.23m for the whole of 1976. Its previous best was as far back as 1974 at £4.16m.

Increasing the comparative figures to a 12-month basis, the 1976 pre-tax profit shows a climb of 29 per cent. On a similar basis of comparison, sales increased by 21 per cent to £43.03m. Earnings for the ordinary are 23.5p against 14.3p a share (for the shorter period).

It pays a total gross dividend lifted from 3.98p, for 10 months, to 5.25p. This represents an increase of 10 per cent over the annual rate paid for the previous year and is the maximum permitted.

Both sales and profits for the group, which distributes timber, building materials, plumbing and heating equipment to the construction industry and allied trades, were at a higher level than in any previous year.

Hopes for an increased level of activity in the housebuilding and improvement markets were set back by the sharp rise in interest rates.

The shares rose 2p to 87p in what the market considers to be a belated upward response.

Wadham well on way to meeting £3m target

By Richard Allen

Having chalked up £2.25m pre-tax in 1976, Wadham Stringer, the motor distributor, claims to be well on the way to meeting a £3m target in the current year.

This Leyland and Rolls-Royce dealer, whose 1975 profits were pegged back by Price Commission intervention, managed to get back on the growth trail with a 22 per cent increase at the pre-tax level.

Turnover jumped 36 per cent to £107.7m partly reflecting the new lower-margin business Wadham took on to appease the commission after it was found to have breached the permitted margin.

The better figures are accompanied by a final dividend payment of 1.29p gross taking the total payment up by the maximum to 2.09p. Earnings a share improved from 2.85p to 4p.

Although Leyland production slipped last year, Wadham managed to increase its own new-car sales by 10 per cent to 22,534 units, partly as a result of a more aggressive retail selling policy.

Commercial vehicle sales improved nearly 40 per cent to 4,321 units while used-car sales climbed under 5 per cent to 18,583. Profits however from used-car business improved substantially as the group moved more heavily into up-market business.

The group claims that the toolmen's strike at Leyland has not had a severe impact.

Having managed to lower overdrafts by around a third last year and rescheduling a further £4m of debt to a medium-term loan, Wadham reckons it is now in a strong position to start looking for further acquisitions.

Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society

Notice is hereby given that the 163rd Annual Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held at the offices of the Society, 10, St. Andrew's Place, Edinburgh, on Thursday, the 26th day of April, 1977, at 2.30 p.m. for the following purposes:

To consider the accounts and balance sheet for the year ended 31 December 1976 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors. To elect Directors. To receive, if thought fit, the following Resolutions recommended to the Members by the Directors:

1. That the Report of the Auditors for the current year be read by the Directors of the Society.

2. To transact any other ordinary business proper to a Shared Annual Meeting.

G. A. KINGSMITH, General Manager and Secretary, 10, St. Andrew's Place, Edinburgh EH1 1BU.

NOTE:—A Summary of the Report will be published in the Press as usual and a copy will be sent on request to any member who would like to have one.

"A specially favourable year"

from Mr. Julian Faber's statement to shareholders

I am pleased that this year—my first in reporting to many new shareholders—has been so successful. We have grown and prospered. In our principal activity—UK Insurance Broking—gross premiums handled were approximately £650 million, 70 per cent in foreign currencies. The Group's profits have increased by 60 per cent, from £10.15 million to £16.32 million.

1976 was a year specially favourable to insurance brokers although in part for reasons of which no one can be proud. The decline in the value of sterling increased profits disproportionately; inflation continues to raise insured values; and very high interest rates available on cash balances added further to our profits.

Some increase in profit would, therefore, have occurred if our business had just stood still; but I am glad to say that it grew in virtually all the several areas in which we are interested, each contributing in varying degrees to our profit.

Thus, our brokerage increased by over 30 per cent. Our insurance company, the Sovereign, reversed its previous profit decline; our Lloyd's and Company agency business produced substantially greater profits. Our managed syndicates at Lloyd's accepted a record number of new names. Our associates, notably Morgan

Grenfell, and those overseas in South Africa, Australia and Canada had a particularly good year. Indeed, every area of our activity proved to be buoyant.

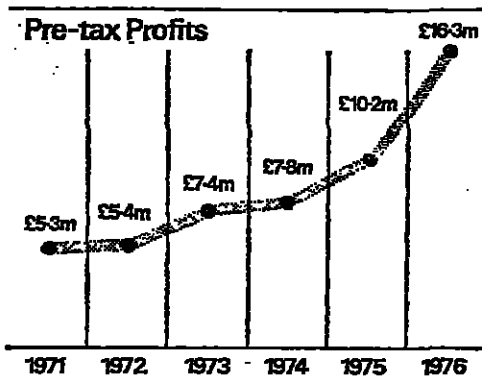
The year was notable for two events, the first being our acquisition of the freehold of Ten Trinity Square—the old Port of London Authority building. Our ambition to own freeholds for both our London and Country Head Offices has thus been finally realized. We expect to occupy the building on May 31st.

Secondly, we became a Public Company with shares quoted on The Stock Exchange. In the event, the uncertainty of the market compelled us to introduce the shares rather than

to make an Offer for Sale. This unusual course was not what we would have chosen though in retrospect I have no doubt that, aided by our professional advisers, we made the right decision. An orderly market in the shares was created as was our aim.

As International Brokers we are tied to no particular market, nor are our fortunes linked with a few insurance companies. Nevertheless we have noticed the harm already done to the London market by the proposals to nationalize some major insurance companies. This damage would be far more severe and indeed would be irreversible if such ideas were pursued to fruition.

Our excellent results are attributable directly to the hard work and loyalty of the members of our staff. While we have been and are being successful in providing for most of them the working conditions which they deserve, under present conditions we are not permitted to reward merit. This applies throughout the range of salaries but particularly in the middle and higher ranges where we are sustaining attacks on our staff from interests abroad which naturally seek to acquire valuable skills such as many of our staff possess. Ultimately there comes a time when appeals to loyalty are not enough. This 'brain drain' will undoubtedly become more serious without further incentives and lower personal taxation here.



Willis Faber Limited

54 Leadenhall Street, London EC3P 3AX

Copies of the Report and Accounts for 1976 are available from The Secretary.

Marshall Cavendish on way back

Making up some leeway at mid-term, up nearly a third to £1.92m, Marshall Cavendish finished 1976 with a rise from £2.28m to £2.88m pre-tax. But this is still below the peak £2.72m in 1972 for this one-time glamour share. The group publishes magazines and books and large format paperbacks. Turnover in the year remained steady at £12.85m against £12.88m.

Earnings a share grew from 5.36p to 6.89p. It pays a total gross dividend lifted from 4.49p to 6.01p. This restores the payout to that paid for 1972. The total cash dividend for the year is covered 1.77 times.

Meanwhile the company continues to grow, the board says. Its range of publishing activities is being expanded, particularly in the hard-book field. Without hazarding a forecast as yet on the outcome for 1977, the opening quarter indicates a "reasonably" successful year.

MHL trebles

Manufacturers Hanover Limited, the London-based merchant banking subsidiary of Manufacturers Bankers Trust Company, more than trebled its profits last year. Pre-tax profits were up from £14.8m to £4.58m, while deposits rose from £51.1m to £92.3m. The bank managed or co-managed syndicated loans or £9.44m (up from £5.21m) and capital issues worth £1.192m (up from £416m). Gross assets at the year end were £117m compared to £89.9m the year before.

Southern Cons ships

Although turnover of Southern Constructors (Holdings) rose from £9.2m to £10.73m in 1976, pre-tax profits fell from £554,000 to £401,000. However, the total gross payment is going up from 1.06p to 1.35p, which has been approved by the Treasury in the context of last year's rights issue. Profitability in the second half-year was seriously affected by the wet weather which continued into the early part of 1977. Nevertheless, the group has a "reasonable" order book.

Authority Investments

Referring to the fact that the accounts of Authority Investments for 1976 have not yet been published, the board of Authority reports that it has been undertaking a large-scale valuation of properties and developments which has entailed more work than was expected. The accounts, however, should be published within the next six weeks at the latest.

J. Bibby and Sons Limited
proudly announces a second Queen's Award to its subsidiary

Henry Cooke Limited

Queen's Award Winners 1973 and 1977

Henry Cooke first won the Queen's Award for Technology in 1973 with the world's first Government-approved steam sterilisable paper for medical packaging.

Now, in Silver Jubilee Year, Henry Cooke has been similarly recognised for another speciality paper designed specifically for the textile transfer printing industry.

Henry Cooke
Europe's Leading Specialist Paper Mill

Henry Cooke Limited,
Waterhouse Mills, Beetham, Milnthorpe,
Cumbria LA7 7AR
Tel: Milnthorpe 3363/475. Telex: 65143 HYCO.G.

A member of the Paper and Converted Products Division of J. Bibby and Sons Limited.

Bernard Wardle

Highlights from the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 20th April 1977

1977—compared with same periods in 1976

- FIRST QUARTER
- * Sales up. * Profits up.
- PROSPECTS
- * Significant improvements forecast for first half year results.
- * Unrealistic at this stage to anticipate second half year results.

The Bernard Wardle Group—manufacturers of PVC sheet and film; vinyl coated fabrics and felts; PVC and polyethylene foams; fabricators of plastics; moulders and mould makers.

Copies of the 1976 Annual Report and Accounts can be obtained from The Secretary, Bernard Wardle and Company Limited, 82 King Street, Knidford, Cheshire WA16 6PF.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Small buying on base rate hopes

For the first time this week, equities made headway as "bear" closures and buyers at the lower levels had the field to themselves.

Early sentiment was helped by a belated response to Hawker Siddeley's bullish figures of the previous day and the imminent prospect of another round of base-rate cuts by the clearing banks. There was even talk of another small reduction in M.L.R. this week, though a majority would be surprised by such a move.

Aeronautical & General Instruments sprang to life after the announcement of a number of share stakes taken as the possible prelude to a bid. The group closed 6p up at 58p on a strong speculative demand but the group says that it has no reason to believe an approach is imminent.

Though interest dwindled as the session progressed, the bid firm in late trading was the news that the Scottish TUC would accept some form of further pay restraint. Having gained 4.2p by midday, the FT closed at 44.4 and the 100 Index at 412.5. Gilt, too, benefited from the prospect of lower interest rates with long dates up half a point after a steady session and "shorts" between one-quarter and three-eighths up after a two-way trade had developed at the higher levels.

Particularly active were the 31 per cent 1982, which rose three-eighths to £141, the 12 1/2

per cent 1992, where the gain was three-quarters to £140, and the 9 1/2 per cent 1981, which put on eleven-sixteenths, for a close of £108.0.

Of the industrial leaders, the strongest performers were Hawker Siddeley which put on another 10p to 540p after its figures and Unilever with a rise of 6p to 458p, which stemmed from the chairman's remarks on prospects and the group's strong liquid position.

Speculative demand was directed into a number of favourite stocks with Gallenkamp gaining no less than 26p to 288p in the hope of another takeover move. United Scientific 8p ahead to 197p and Tecalemit 5p ahead to 101 1/2p. Others gaining ground for similar reasons were Thomas J. Bourdon 4p to 38p and commodity group Giff & Duffus which put on another 3p to 227p in spite of its earlier denial.

Shipping shares saw demand in a thin market with bid hopes helping Common Brothers to a rise of 18p to 243p and other firm spots to be found in Walter Runciman 4p to 130 and British & Commonwealth 3p to 289p. Store issues featured Burton "A" which gained 4p to 74p and House of Fraser 2p to 94p. Adams Food were 5p to the good at 28p after minority terms from the Irish Dairy Board. Elsewhere in the food sector, P. & M. gained another 9p to 119p, making 14p so far this week, in the continuing hope that Tiger Oats will raise its 30 per cent stake or make an all-out bid.

After figures, food retailer Wm Low gained 4p for a close of 86p. The continuing interest in hotel issues left Rowton 9p ahead at 110p and De Vere a further 10p up at 149p. Building industry shares saw Travis & Arnold put on 2p to 87p after figures and civil engineer A. Monk firm at 68p after news of a share stake. Interest in the last-named was reported here yesterday.

Results dominated a firm papers pitch where Marshall Cavendish rose 3 1/2p to 44 1/2p after its statement. Collett, Dickenson 2p to 44p, and Pearson Longman 3p to 123p. S. Pearson, whose figures came out at the same time, rose 4p to 136p. The recent strength of glass shares was reflected in a rise of 10p to 117p for Redfearn National.

The feature of a comparatively dull oil sector was a smaller than expected loss from Burmah where the shares shot up 7p to 69p after the statement.

Latest dividends

Company	Ord. div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Adams Foods (10p) Int	0.57	1/6	1/6	1.15	1.15
Aquascutum (5p) Fin	1.36	1/6	1/6	1.36	1.36
Audiovision (10p) Fin	1.52	1/6	1/6	3.25	3.25
Bestobell (25p) Fin	5.21	4/74	28/5	8.44	7.57
G. M. Callender (10p) Fin	0.65	0/6	1/7	1.2	1.1
Claydon, Son (50p) Fin	2.86	2/6	27/5	3.93	3.57
Clive Discount (20p) Fin	3.8	1.85*	—	5.13	2.85*
Collett, Dickenson (10p) Fin	1.53	1/6	30/5	2.92	2.66
Currys (25p) Fin	4.06	3/6	—	4.06	3.59
Delta Metal (25p) Fin	2.87	2/6	—	4.49	4.08
Eagle Star (25p) Fin	2.73	2/6	15/7	5.48	4.98
Finlay Packaging (5p) Fin	0.82	0/3	9/6	1.07	0.97
Wm Low (20p) Int	1.65	1/5	—	4.9	4.9
Martin-Black (25p) Fin	2.4	2	25/5	4.4	4
S. Pearson (25p) Sec Int	4.1	4.14	—	6.1	5.54
Pearson Longman (25p) Sec Int	3.61	3/7	3/5	5.36	4.87
Sun Life Ass (5p) Int	1.53	1/7	1/7	2.78	2.78
Sunlight Service (10p) Fin	0.7	0/3	—	1.02	0.92
Travis & Arnold (25p) Fin	2.79	2/6	3/4	2.84	2.84
Wadham Straker (10p) Fin	0.83	0/7	25/6	1.35	1.23
Ward Star (25p) Fin	1.5	0/25	16/6	2.0	0.23
Marshall C (10p) Fin	2.52	2/3	—	3.9	2.72
Kalamazoo (10p) Int	0.82	0/7	23/5	1.73	1.73
Joseph Holt (25p) Fin	1.29	1/28	—	1.94	1.76

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. *For nine months. †For 10 months.

Raine in final bid for Sheffield Brick

By Victor Felstead

In its fight to take over the Sheffield Brick Group, Raine Engineering Industries is raising its bid. The new terms are four ordinary shares, plus 35p cash, for every ordinary share in Sheffield Brick. Raine's offer is a major part of which came into force on Monday.

Ready Mixed's stake is clearly aimed to protect its interests, as Staveley has important line works, while Staveley in turn is protecting itself by holding a 9.9 per cent stake in its abrasives competitor, Barton & Sons. It has been known for some time that there was a significant holding in Barton, but until yesterday it was not known who was the owner.

RMC and Staveley in 'protective' stakes

By Nicholas Hirst

Ready Mixed Concrete yesterday announced a 7.16 per cent stake in Staveley Industries in accordance with the 1976 Companies Act, a major part of which came into force on Monday.

Downs Surgical revealed that BOC International holds 9.5 per cent.

Valor, makers of gas heaters, cookers and car parts, said that a Jersey Investment trust, Jersey Sports Stadium, had an 8 per cent holding. There has been no increase in the holding recently.

Cities Investment Trust (9.95 per cent), Scottish & Mercantile Investment Co (7.65 per cent), Lancashire & London Investment Trust (7.81 per cent), Fashion & General Investment Trust (7.02 per cent), Ocean Wilsons (3.84 per cent) and finally Latham Investment (6.0 per cent).

Nottingham Manufacturing holds 10.9 per cent in fellow Marks & Spencer supplier, Bastow Holdings.

A Monk notified holdings of 7 per cent by the Norwich Union and 5.63 per cent by the Prudential.

Debenhams have been informed of a nominee holding of 19.31 per cent in a class of preference shares under the name N. C. Lombard Street Nominees.

Malaysian Rubber announced holdings by a number of other rubber companies as did Sungai Bahr Rubber Estates and Kinta Kellas Rubber Estates.

Crane plans to fox US Fruehauf Corp

Crane Fruehauf is the trailer group that has had a reprieve from the bid attentions of the United States Fruehauf Corporation, but, as the way was reprieved, the reprieve is temporary.

So the full accounts from Crane do not, and cannot say everything that Mr Angus Murray, the recently appointed chairman and his colleagues, could say about the current year.

The reprieve came last November when the Monopolies Commission stepped in under merger provisions of the Fair Trading Act, 1973. The American group already has a one third stake in the British group.

Crane, advised by Hill Samuel, duly leapt its 27p a share bid. The last word so far on this particular subject was in March when it was reported that Mr Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices, had agreed to extend the time allowed for the Commission to weigh the proposed merger.

Hence the need for Mr Murray to keep some of his powder dry. With his eye on the stated intentions of Fruehauf Corporation to make a further bid "it is regretted that no further forecasts of the results for 1977 can be made at present".

However the chairman reaffirms his earlier opinion that



Mr Angus Murray, chairman of Crane Fruehauf.

profits will be "substantially in excess of those for 1976".

Last year's figures were encouraging but the message from the managing director, Mr Derek Marsh, is "must try harder." Up jumped pre-tax profits from £111,000 to £151m, beating November's promise of at least £1.4m but turnover was as much as £47.66m against £33.68m.

The comment from the managing director is that the spurt came in the second half, but profits do not yet match turnover.

BASF's higher return leads to increase in dividend

From Peter Norman Bonn, April 20

On the strength of sharply higher profits last year, BASF AG, the Ludwigshafen-based chemical group, will increase its dividend to DM8.50 per DMSO share from the DM7 paid for 1975.

As well as the increased dividend, which will cost the company DM301m (about £71.6m) against DM233m the previous year, BASF announced today that it will pay DM55m (DM40m) into published reserves, suggesting that parent company net profit after tax rose to DM356m last year from DM273m in 1975.

In today's announcement the company also disclosed that its group net earnings after tax and minority interests climbed to DM607m in 1976 from DM575m.

BASF had already announced sharp increases of 48 per cent and 65 per cent in parent company and group pre-tax profits to DM823m and DM1,400m respectively.

Olivetti back to profit

Olivetti, the Ivrea-based electronic and office equipment manufacturer, returned to pro-

International

fitability last year with a net profit of 1,062m lire (£711,000). This was compared with a 1975 8,600m lire loss. The dividend however is again passed, writes John Earle.

Sales were 32.2 per cent up at 501,200m lire. Olivetti reports further improvement in the first quarter of this year.

Unicorp quarterly

From Union Corporation Group comes word that working profits of Winkelhaak Mines rose from £7.5m in the December quarter to £17.5m in the three months to March 31 thanks to better revenue. But at St Helena Gold ore milled fell from 560,000 tons to 530,000, taking down working profits from £13.2m to £10.5m. Operations are moving from the richer areas into lower grades.

At Kinross Mines working profits rose from £3.94m to £4.76m. But Leslie notched a working loss and down went the working profits of Bracken from £2.46m to £2.2m.

Briefly

offer unconditionally to the remaining shareholders.

WM LOW

Turnover for 28 weeks to March 19 rose from £18.72m to £20.5m. Pre-tax profits doubled to £751,000 (£366,000). Interim payment, gross, raised from 2.5p to 2.54p.

AUDIOTRONIC HOLDINGS

Turnover for 1976 rose from £17.97m to £21.77m, but pre-tax profits fell from £1.42m to £1.07m. Total payment held at 5p gross.

AQUASCUTUM & ASSOC

Sales for year to January 31 up from £13.35m to £18.97m and pre-tax profits up from £1.19m to £1.71m. Total gross payment raised from 1.91p to 2.1p.

COLLETT, DICKENSON

Turnover for 1976 up from £24.7m to £28.91m and pre-tax profits from £552,000 to £826,000. Total gross payment, 4.5p (4.09p).



The visible tribute to an invisible achievement

Our insurance and reinsurance broking operations have resulted in record 'invisible' earnings and gained us the Queen's Award for Export Achievement 1977.

C. T. Bowring (Insurance) Holdings Ltd., whose constituent companies trade worldwide as insurance and reinsurance brokers, has made an outstanding contribution to Britain's exports.

During the past two years it has increased its premium turnover in overseas currencies more than two and a half times, namely from £177,000,000 to £447,000,000 in 1976.

The constituent companies give advice in and arrange for every class of direct insurance for Government Bodies, Industrial, Commercial, Professional and Private Clients, and also arrange reinsurance cover for insurance companies and underwriters throughout the world.

Bowring

C. T. Bowring (Insurance) Holdings Ltd.
The Bowring Building, Tower Place, London EC3P 3BE. Tel: 01-283 3100
A member of the Bowring Group

THE HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

Notice to existing and intending investors and borrowers

Variation of Interest Rates

The Directors of The Halifax Building Society announce that the rates of interest charged to borrowers and paid to investors will be reduced as provided by the terms of this notice.

BORROWERS

The rates of interest charged on mortgage accounts will be reduced as follows:-

on mortgages now charged interest at £12.25 per cent per annum to £11.25 per cent per annum
on mortgages now charged interest at £12.50 per cent per annum to £11.50 per cent per annum

Other borrowers including option mortgage borrowers will be notified individually of their new rates of interest.

INVESTORS

The Society will pay the undermentioned rates of interest on the following kinds of investments:-

Paid-Up Shares -£7.00 per cent per annum
Deposits -£8.75 per cent per annum
Monthly Savings -£8.25 per cent per annum

The rate of interest on Subscription Shares and on Matured Subscription Shares will be reduced by £0.80 per cent per annum.

The new rates will apply

Immediately to accounts opened on or after 1st May 1977
on and after 1st May 1977 to mortgages completed before 18th April 1977

Borrowers will be notified individually of the monthly payments they should make.

The rates of interest on Term Share accounts open at the end of April 1977 will be reduced by £0.80 per cent per annum from the end of May 1977.

The rates mentioned above will not apply to investors whose investments (including shares in joint investments) exceed £15,000 or are held by a limited company, corporate body or discretionary or accumulating trust. The rate of interest payable to those investors in the Paid-Up Share and Deposit departments will be reduced by £0.75 per cent per annum.

Details of the rates of interest payable on investments in other departments will be available at branches and agencies before 1st May 1977.

Trinity Road Halifax

April 1977

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Shortfall from Singapore and S Africa checks Bestobell

By Ray Maughan
Bestobell, the fluid engineering, thermal and acoustic insulation group, has been hit by poor results from its subsidiaries in Singapore and South Africa.

Their combined shortfall, however, exceeds the shortfall of the group as a whole and Sir Humphrey Brown, chairman, reports that firm order trends have been established in the home market. United Kingdom orders climbed 25 per cent in 1976 and have gone further ahead with a 30 per cent rise in the first quarter of the current year. And Sir Humphrey is convinced that "1976 was a kink in an upward curve". But, profits have been

inflated by £746,000 exchange gains which, after a reduction of market values of Indian associates, net out at an extraordinary credit of £500,000. In total, pre-tax profits dropped from £5,671m to £5,341m.

South African deflation and mediocre management, subsequently strengthened, accounted for a fall from £630,000 to £163,000 in the financial year to end-June last and these activities reached a nadir in the subsequent six months. The board says that trade has improved in the first 3 months of 1977 but does not expect a full recovery this time. Singapore, faced by stiff competition, suffered a loss of £39,000 in 1975-76 against a profit of £89,000.

Capital spending last year hit £2.5m, in which United Kingdom investment doubled to £1.67m. Expenditure is now expected to reach around £3m and the emphasis on the re-equipment of the plants producing controls, valves and seals will be sustained.

Six of the ten United Kingdom merchanting centres have been re-located, an initiative which has so far been rewarded with a 50 per cent increase in volume this year at branches been re-located, an initiative

The shares were unchanged yesterday at 146p and the maximum permitted gross total dividend of 12.996p a share yield 9.2 per cent.

BP Chem in £10m deal with Bakelite Xylonite

BP Chemicals is negotiating to buy Bakelite Xylonite's BXL Thermosetting division at Tysley, Birmingham for £10m. Negotiations are in an advanced state and the ownership of the division is expected to be transferred by September 1.

BP is already the major supplier of feedstocks to the division which has three inter-related products — phenolic moulding powders, industrial laminates and phenolic resins. Modernization plans for the plant are to be continued by BP which said yesterday that it would also invest £3.5m in re-equipping the moulding powders plant.

Bakelite Xylonite, is part of the Union Carbide Group, and has already sold its decorative laminates operation at Aycliffe in co Durham to a Swedish Company, Perspex AB and is concentrating its low-density polyethylene operations at Grangemouth.

Mr R. O. Harvey, assistant managing director of Bakelite Xylonite, said yesterday that proceeds of the sale would be directed into other developments being undertaken by Union Carbide in the United Kingdom. He said that the 1,200 employees at the Birmingham plant had been informed.

Eng & Caledonian move

English & Caledonian Investment, a £15.4m investment trust, some 31 per cent owned by London & Manchester Assurance, yesterday reported an initial takeover approach. A bald statement noting the approach recommends that shareholders await "a further announcement" by their board.

Apart from London & Manchester's stake, Standard Life Assurance holds 13.86 per cent and the Prudential 10.1 per cent

of the trust. Managed by Gartmore Investments, London & Caledonian reported pre-tax revenue of £621,000 in the year to March 1976 and assets per share of 82.2p. The trust holds a diverse portfolio of principally United Kingdom equities. At the March year-end 67.8 per cent of the portfolio was United Kingdom-based and 22.9 per cent in the United States.

On news of the approach the shares closed 19p higher last night at 80p.

Ward White rebounds from loss

By Victor Felstead

A significant turnaround was achieved last year by Wellingborough-based Ward White Group which slumped into losses in 1975.

On sales up from £48.92m to £52.95m, a pre-tax profit of £1.35m was achieved, against a loss of £148,000 in 1975, after interest charged of £133m, compared with £14m. Trading profit before interest charges more than doubled from £1.25m to £2.69m.

The rise in the dividend is no less dramatic than the recovery—the total gross payout is going up from 0.38p to 3.08p.

Mr George McWaters, chairman, told shareholders that the recovery trend at the midway continued into the second six months, with manufacturing levels generally throughout the group being improved.

Currently, the United Kingdom factories are fully occupied with good order books and the overseas operations have made a similar start to 1977.

The trading results achieved so far this year, the board adds, indicate that profits for the first half of this year will show a "further substantial improvement".

Clive pays much more than expected

By Christopher Wilkins

Buoyant profits and an unexpectedly big increase in the dividend saw the shares of Clive Discount climb from 78p to 80p yesterday.

Against outside estimates of perhaps a 20 per cent increase, the dividend has been lifted by 35 per cent to a gross 7.85p a share. The group has thus taken full advantage of its freedom from dividend control, following the offer for sale of shares in 1975.

Profits for the year to March 31 totalled £13.2m, which represents a 40 per cent increase if the figures for the previous nine-monthly period are annualized.

This is comfortably the best published result ever achieved by Clive, and is significant as a pointer for other discount houses due soon to report their results for the similar period, since virtually all the profits were made in the final three months.

Mr N. H. Chamberlain, chairman of Clive, said yesterday that during the first nine months of the financial year, when interest rates were generally rising, the company "maintained a defensive stance". During the final quarter Clive was running a much bigger book with a bigger commitment to gilts. Since the year-end, the group has again been taking a more protective position, and the emphasis is switching more from capital to running profits. Clive Investments, the group's fund management company, increased its profits by 20 per cent to £1.72m.

Meanwhile Clive is proposing a one-for-five scrip issue, has transferred £500,000 from profit and loss account to capital reserve and will increase the authorized capital from £3m to £4m.

Oxley Printing moves into the black

Reporting the expected improvement in profit, Oxley Printing Group says they are confident that the business has now overcome the difficulties which affected the latter half of 1975 and the first few months of 1976.

In the current year, the first quarter's management accounts compare favourably with those for the same period of last year. Group prospects are "bright".

With the group needing all its cash resources to fund the increase in turnover, the directors have again decided not to recommend a dividend. A resumption of dividends is, however, expected in 1977.

Eagle Star's problems in US and Belgium

By John Brennan

Reporting a 1976 pre-tax surplus 26 per cent higher at £32.9m yesterday, Eagle Star Insurance completed the results of the year.

Eagle Star also manages to put the rest of the sector to shame with the degree of disclosure in its preliminary figures, although the detailed breakdown of underwriting and investment performance underlines the group's problems in the United States and Belgium markets.

Underwriting losses for the group rose from £7.2m to £7.2m in the year excluding pension fund contributions costing £5.7m. Losses of £3.1m in Belgium and £1.3m in the United States are brought into sharp focus by premium income in the countries of just £24.3m and £4.5m respectively.

Automobile cover remains the main problem area in both the United States and Belgium, and although the group sees some hope of easing the problem in Belgium by eliminating motor cycle cover and raising increases, its United States motor account is being run down. The Australian market improved, reducing the deficit to £700,000 on £1.1m of premium and elsewhere South Africa and the

category for all other territories produced a £600,000 surplus each.

In the domestic market sub-division claims ran to £4m, taking the householders account £5.8m into the red. The total would have been £1m higher but for a provision against January 1976 storm damage in last year's accounts. A net United Kingdom underwriting deficit of £3.3m on premiums of £18.3m makes up the balance of the group's total £7.2m underwriting deficit on £23.8m of premiums. The underwriting loss plus pension costs of £5.7m dip investment income of £24.4m to a net insurance surplus of £11.5m. Investment income on shareholders funds rose from £8.9m to £14.4m helped by last year's £26m rights issue. Grovewood Securities managed its ninth successive record profit with a 51 per cent increase to £5.6m pre-tax on £73.0m turnover, and other associated companies chipped in £500,000 pre-tax.

Eagle Star reports an above-average solvency margin of 49 per cent despite the third increase in premiums last year. Dividends of 8.438p gross per share are recommended, taking the £1.1m of reserves down 3p to 114p on the results, to 7.4 per cent.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar closed stronger against major European currencies yesterday and the yen was helped by further favourable United States accounts.

Sterling traded just under the \$172 level, but financial markets doubt whether the Bank of England is yet prepared to see a resumption in the decline in Minimum Lending Rate despite rumours suggesting a cut. The pound closed at \$171.95, a rise of 6 points on the day, after light Bank sales of sterling to prevent a rise above \$172. The effective rate was 171.8 per cent. Gold lost \$1.75 an ounce to close in London at \$149.125.

Spot Position of Sterling

Market rates (day average)	Bank rates (closing)
New York 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
London 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Frankfurt 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Paris 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Brussels 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Amsterdam 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Stockholm 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Copenhagen 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Oslo 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Stockholm 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Copenhagen 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Oslo 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Stockholm 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Copenhagen 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200
Oslo 1.7195-1.7200	1.7195-1.7200

The index of sterling's effective rate is 171.8 per cent, compared with 171.7 per cent the previous evening.

Forward Levels

Month	Rate
1 month	1.7195-1.7200
3 months	1.7195-1.7200
6 months	1.7195-1.7200
12 months	1.7195-1.7200
18 months	1.7195-1.7200
24 months	1.7195-1.7200
30 months	1.7195-1.7200
36 months	1.7195-1.7200
42 months	1.7195-1.7200
48 months	1.7195-1.7200
54 months	1.7195-1.7200
60 months	1.7195-1.7200

Gold

Gold closed at \$149.125 an ounce, up from \$148.375 the previous day. The price of gold is up from \$148.375 the previous day.

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat index on European share prices was put provisionally at 121.20 on April 19. Against 119.12 a week earlier.

Wall Street

New York, April 20.—The stock market was mixed higher on brisk turnover at the close on the New York Stock Exchange, but it showed some nervousness prior to President Carter's energy message to Congress.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was ahead 3.82 points to 842.59.

Gainers outnumbered losers 880 to 525.

Volume totalled 25.05 million shares, up from 19.51 million the previous day.

The industrial average closed well below its peak gain for the day of six points, and the market generally was skeptical about some earnings reports that were below expectations.

Gold falls again

New York, April 20.—GOLD futures closed off 50 cents on the day, NY COMEX, April 19, 1977, May, \$148.00; June, \$148.50; July, \$149.00; Aug, \$149.50; Sept, \$150.00; Oct, \$150.50; Nov, \$151.00; Dec, \$151.50; Jan, \$152.00; Feb, \$152.50; Mar, \$153.00; Apr, \$153.50; May, \$154.00; Jun, \$154.50; Jul, \$155.00; Aug, \$155.50; Sep, \$156.00; Oct, \$156.50; Nov, \$157.00; Dec, \$157.50; Jan, \$158.00; Feb, \$158.50; Mar, \$159.00; Apr, \$159.50; May, \$160.00; Jun, \$160.50; Jul, \$161.00; Aug, \$161.50; Sep, \$162.00; Oct, \$162.50; Nov, \$163.00; Dec, \$163.50; Jan, \$164.00; Feb, \$164.50; Mar, \$165.00; Apr, \$165.50; May, \$166.00; Jun, \$166.50; Jul, \$167.00; Aug, \$167.50; Sep, \$168.00; Oct, \$168.50; Nov, \$169.00; Dec, \$169.50; Jan, \$170.00; Feb, \$170.50; Mar, \$171.00; Apr, \$171.50; May, \$172.00; Jun, \$172.50; Jul, \$173.00; Aug, \$173.50; Sep, \$174.00; Oct, \$174.50; Nov, \$175.00; Dec, \$175.50; Jan, \$176.00; Feb, \$176.50; Mar, \$177.00; Apr, \$177.50; May, \$178.00; 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Wetland

Motoring

Porsche casts enticing bait on wider waters

With the recently introduced two-litre 924 Coupé poised to become the company's best seller this year and an exciting 4.5-litre 928 model due in Britain next spring, the Porsche 911 is being expanded in both directions as the company seeks to cover a wider segment of the performance car market.

Since its introduction in 1964, the Porsche 911 has been the most successful car in its class, with the 911 in its various guises, a car that has been seen through its first 14 years as a car manufacturer in its own right, as a car that has been seen through its first 14 years as a car manufacturer in its own right.

That was the Porsche Carrera in its natural element. With longer acquaintance I came to admire the clarity of the message from the front wheels delivered through the steering wheel (holding the wheel lightly, leaving the moving rim tell of every minor change of surface, camber and, most important for a competition-oriented car, adhesion).

The ride was firm, but not harsh, the steering pleasantly light and sensibly geared for the rapid and accurate changes in direction that are made possible by such meticulously tuned suspension. The brake pedal required a heavy foot (the power assistance is provided for this would blur the feel transmitted to the driver), but it offered a level of deceleration almost as impressive as that of acceleration.

Yet there is another side to the Carrera's personality. With light throttle it is the most unobtrusive of town cars, able to burble along on a minimum of revolutions (even in fifth gear at 30 mph if the driver is so inclined). In that sense it is a practical car, but of course it is wasted in towns.

Driving it in this manner you find the long clutch travel more of a nuisance, and the heaviness of the gear shift in the lower ratios a bore; the level of alertness and the firm, positive movements that are so natural a part of fast driving become more of a chore at 20 mph.

Almost inconspicuously, the Carrera runs on two-star fuel, and consumption varies over a wide range; stopwatch testing gave me as little as 14 mpg, a main road journey across country as much as 24 mpg. Around eighteen to twenty mpg is a reasonable amount of half-throttle acceleration.

To own a Carrera has to be an indulgence, but for those who can afford it it offers a driving experience that, if not unique, is extremely rare. Despite its performance it is utterly unflinching, hence its appeal more to those who understand and appreciate total responsiveness in a car than to those who covet one merely as a status symbol.

Of the new 924, which I have also been testing recently, I have mixed feelings. This is a car, a two-plus-two coupe offering generous front seat but minimal rear-seat accommodation, initially designed by Porsche for VW/Audi, then "bought back" from them when the latter group altered their product-planning strategy.



Most satisfying of all—the three-litre Carrera.

needle shot up so quickly that I was rushing for the gear lever and a change to second only moments after leaving the line.

Another three seconds and we were at 80 mph; less than a quarter of a minute after the start and we were into three figures. Maximum speed, I am assured (and believe), is between 140 and 150 mph; 135 mph was as much as I saw in the room available, sufficient to sample the effectiveness of the front air dam as an aid to high-speed directional stability.

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Consequently it makes wide use of VW/Audi components, the two-litre engine, for example, being similar to that used in the new Audi 100, though equipped with fuel injection and driving the rear rather than the front wheels. By moving the gearbox to the back, in unit with the final drive, Porsche has achieved a more even weight distribution and provided a pleasantly light and positive change through the short, stubby lever.

The gearing is unusually high (helping to a consumption of 26 mpg during some 100 arduous driving miles), which gives high maxima in the three indirect gears (36, 62 and 96 mph at the 6,500 rpm limit) but only modest top-gear acceleration. Using the full revolution range, it was able to reach 60 mph in eight seconds, which is excellent two-litre performance.

Very comfortable seats, a good control layout (except that the steering wheel is just a fraction low-slung), coupled with relatively light cornering and predictable if slightly low-geared steering add up to quite a high standard of driving enjoyment. Against that must be set too much mechanical and road noise and a lack of refinement in ride comfort that is difficult to reconcile with a price of £7,000.

There is no cause to doubt that Porsche's traditionally high standards of design and quality control have been built into the structure and mechanics of the car, but cars must be judged within their price and market bracket on what a driver or passenger can see, hear or feel. It has to be said that several cars of less exalted image offer considerable competition to the 924 at a significantly lower cost.

However, I have no doubt that Porsche's 924 target of 600 United Kingdom sales this year will be easily achieved, for, imperfections notwithstanding, the opportunity to own a Porsche for £3,000 less than the nearest rival is one that many may find hard to resist.

Hot-water washer

At last, a way of removing bird dirt and insect corpses from the screen without using up half the washer reservoir. Hotwash is a simple non-electric heat exchanger that fits into the heater's hot-water hose as well as the water line between washer reservoir and jets.

I find the heated washer liquid is a far more effective screen cleaner than cold water and easier on the blades, too. It also speeds up de-icing during a recent bout of cold weather. About half an hour's work was involved in fitting it to a Cortina, and though not an accessory add-on I consider it excellent value at £3.50.

It is made by the Li-Li division of the Allied Polymer Group, Albert Drive, Sheerwater Estate, Woking, Surrey.

John Blunsden

Broadcasting

In the first of the eagerly awaited £500,000 series of nine hour-long documentaries, Royal Heritage (BBC1 8.0), the Queen introduces some of the treasures of the Crown, an affectionate tribute to Ealing Cinema (BBC2 8.0), begins with Compton Mackenzie's hilarious Whisky Galore! and Beanie 76 (BBC2 9.30) samples a charity wine auction in France. New comedy Paradise Island (ITV 7.10) finds Bill Maynard and William Franklyn shipwrecked in the Pacific.—T.S.

BBC1

6.40 am, Open University: The Drawings of Seurat; 7.05, Television and Politics (2.7.30); 7.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 7.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 7.45, The Drawings of Seurat; 8.00, The Drawings of Seurat; 8.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 8.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 8.45, The Drawings of Seurat; 9.00, The Drawings of Seurat; 9.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 9.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 9.45, The Drawings of Seurat; 10.00, The Drawings of Seurat; 10.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 10.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 10.45, The Drawings of Seurat; 11.00, The Drawings of Seurat; 11.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 11.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 11.45, The Drawings of Seurat; 12.00, The Drawings of Seurat; 12.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 12.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 12.45, The Drawings of Seurat; 1.00, The Drawings of Seurat; 1.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 1.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 1.45, The Drawings of Seurat; 2.00, The Drawings of Seurat; 2.15, The Drawings of Seurat; 2.30, The Drawings of Seurat; 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